

THE BIRD OBSERVER SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER, 1976

The temperature averaged only 41.9 degrees during the month of November, 3.3 degrees below normal and the coldest November since 1967. This was the second very cold month in a row. The highest temperature was 66 degrees on the 27th, the lowest was 23 degrees just three days later on the 30th. Precipitation was only 2.64 of an inch, 3.87 under normal and the least since November, 1917. This was the second driest November in 158 years of record. Snow came early with 1 inch on the 10th, the earliest for so much since 1894. No more measurable snow fell during the month.

Shearwaters continued in unusually high numbers off Cape Cod waters - unprecedented for the month of November. Note especially 100 Cory's Shearwaters at Eastham. The high counts reflect the increased number of squid in Cape Cod Bay throughout the fall. A late Cattle Egret was noted on the 21st at Lakeville.

Waterfowl highlights included 3 European Wigeons and an outstanding count of 800 Redheads at Nantucket. Ring-necked Ducks numbered over 550 at Lakeville, where 45 Lesser Scaups and a peak count of 637 Ruddy Ducks were also noted. Off Deer Island in Boston Harbor, 5000+ Common Eiders were noted.

An immature Golden Eagle was well observed at Newburyport, and an immature Bald Eagle was present throughout the month at Lakeville. Shorebird highlights included Golden Plover, Western Sandpiper, both Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits and very late records of Solitary Sandpiper and Northern Phalarope.

An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was photographed on Nauset Beach on the 14th, and a high count of 85 Laughing Gulls was made at Winthrop on the 7th. An immature Sabine's Gull was observed in Massachusetts Bay on the 18th, and excellent details were submitted.

A Common Murre was found at Provincetown, and 1 Atlantic Puffin was noted at First Encounter Beach, Eastham on the 6th. It was an uneventful November for alcid, with only a few Razorbills, Thick-billed Murres and Dovekies recorded. A Snowy Owl was reported from Weston on the 4th, and 3 Saw-whet Owls were noted. Eastern Point Wildlife Sanctuary in Gloucester was a mecca for woodpeckers, with the Brookline Bird Club reporting five species on the 20th including a Black-backed Three-Toed.

Land bird highlights included a Gray Jay at Dana in Quabbin Reservoir, a possible Varied Thrush in Rockport, and late departure dates for Wood Thrush, White-eyed Vireo, Black-and-white, Tennessee, Nashville and Wilson's Warblers and also Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds were recorded, and the Brewer's Blackbird continued at Corn Hill, Truro, where a Clay-colored Sparrow was reported on the 2nd.

R.H.S.

Common Loon:			
26,28	P.I., Marblehead	18,10	R.Forster, M.Kasprzyk
Red-throated Loon:			
6,11	Rockport, Orleans	75+, 100+	R.Veit#, R.Veit
Red-necked Grebe:			
6	Provincetown, Newburyport	2, 2+	W.Petersen, v.o.
6-30	6 localities	7 individuals	v.o.
16	E.Quabbin	1	J.Cavanaugh
Horned Grebe:			
5	Lakeville	137	W.Petersen
Northern Fulmar:			
1-4, 6	Mass. Bay, Cape Cod Bay	88, 42	T.Lloyd-Evans, W.Petersen
9-12	Georges Bank	58	C.Scharf
Cory's Shearwater:			
6	Eastham (First Encounter Bch.)	100	C.Goodrich & B.Nikula
14	Barnstable (S.N.)	4	R.Pease, H.D'Entremont
Greater Shearwater:			
1-4	Mass. Bay	981	T.Lloyd-Evans
6	Eastham-Provincetown	1600+	R.Forster#
9-12	Georges Bank	1626	C.Scharf
Sooty Shearwater:			
4, 6	Mass. Bay, Eastham	19, 15	T.Lloyd-Evans, W.Petersen & R.Forster

Manx Shearwater:			
5,6	Marshfield, Barnstable	1-2, 2	W. Petersen, R. Pease
15	Nauset	2	S. Higginbotham
Leach's Storm-Petrel:			
1,8	Eastham, Salisbury	2, 1	B. Nikula, R. Emery
Gannet:			
7, 13	Provincetown, Jeffrey's Ledge	300, 300	F. Hamlen, D. Finch & R. Veit#
Great Cormorant:			
20	Lakeville	1 imm.	W. Petersen
Cattle Egret:			
21	Lakeville	1	J. Flaherty
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
1, 27	Nantucket, P. I.	12, 12	E. Andrews, E. Pyburn#
Mute Swan:			
7	Nantucket	<u>54</u>	E. Andrews
Snow Goose:			
20, 21	Bolton, P. I.	100, 68	E. Salmela, M. McClellan
30	Chilmark (M. V.)	1 (blue morph)	fide M. Hancock
Gadwall:			
6	Ipswich, Concord	92, 20	D. Alexander#, H. Merriman
European Wigeon:			
thr.	Nantucket	3 m.	E. Andrews#
Northern Shoveler:			
21	P. I.	85	BBC (P. Roberts)
Redhead:			
19	Nantucket	<u>800</u>	E. Andrews
Ring-necked Duck:			
13, 20	Lakeville, Eastham	550+, 150	SSBC (W. Petersen), F. Hamlen
Canvasback:			
5, 21-25	Lakeville, Nantucket	526, 600+	W. Petersen, E. Andrews
27	Cambridge	193	R. Stymeist
Lesser Scaup:			
5, 14	Lakeville, Cambridge	45+, 8	W. Petersen, BBC (H. Keith)
28	Brookline	7	H. Wiggan
Harlequin Duck:			
26	Rockport	1 m., 2 f.	N. Clayton
Common Eider:			
7	Winthrop	5000+	R. Veit & R. Stymeist
11, 14	Plymouth Beach	3000, 3000	M&B Litchfield, J. McCrea
King Eider:			
25	Rockport	1 imm. m.	R. Forster
Ruddy Duck:			
5, 11	Lakeville	343+, 637	W. Petersen, S. Higginbotham
Hooded Merganser:			
5, 13	Halifax, Lincoln	29, 28	W. Petersen, R. Forster
Red-breasted Merganser:			
5	Lakeville	4	W. Petersen
Turkey Vulture:			
28	Manomet	1	T. Lloyd-Evans
Goshawk:			
6, 6-27	Lakeville, P. I.	1, 1-2	J. Flaherty, P. Butler & v.o.
7, 20, 27	Truro, Tyngsboro, E. Orleans	1, 1, 1	F. Hamlen#, J. Baird, J. Harris
Cooper's Hawk:			
6, 7-8	Framingham, Barnstable	1 ad. m., 1	K. Hamilton, R. Pease
12-20	Nantucket	1 imm.	C&A Andrews
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
2	Lancaster	1	H. Merriman
Rough-legged Hawk:			
6-21	4 localities	6+ individuals	v.o.
Golden Eagle:			
26	Newburyport	1 imm.	R. Forster
Bald Eagle:			
thr., 16-21	Lakeville, E. Quabbin	1 imm., 2 ad. & 1 imm.	D. Briggs#, T. Gagnon#
Osprey:			
3, 11-13	Concord, Lakeville	1, 1	J. Landan, W. Petersen
Peregrine Falcon:			
21	Orleans	1	C. Goodrich & B. Nikula

Merlin:				
1,2	P.I., Truro	1,1	G. Gove, N. Claflin	
5,10	Duxbury, Salisbury	1,1	W. Petersen, M. McClellan	
Virginia Rail:				
7	Nahant, Eastham	2+, 4	BBC (S. Zende), SSBC (R. Fox)	
11, 13-26	S. Peabody, Nantucket	1,1	R. Heil, C&A Andrews	
American Coot:				
5, 21	Lakeville, Pembroke	400+, 200	W. Petersen	
Semipalmated Plover:				
7, 12	Revere	4, 2	R. Stymeist, S. Zende	
Golden Plover:				
4-6, 7	P.I., Bridgewater	4, 1	D. Alexander#, J. Flaherty	
20, 26-29	Salisbury, P.I.	1, 1	W. Scott, H. Ferris#	
Black-bellied Plover:				
7	Winthrop	282	R. Stymeist, R. Veit#	
Ruddy Turnstone:				
7, 27	Winthrop	20	R. Veit, T. Lawrence#	
American Woodcock:				
2-27	10 localities	singles	v.o.	
<u>Solitary Sandpiper:</u>				
6	Wellfleet	1	C. Goodrich, B. Nikula	
Greater Yellowlegs:				
6, 7	Chatham, E. Boston	5, 13	CCBC (J. Bryant), R. Stymeist	
27	P.I.	5	BBC (E. Pyburn)	
Red Knot:				
9	Duxbury	42	M. Moore	
Pectoral Sandpiper:				
21, 28	Duxbury, Wellfleet	1, 1-2	W. Petersen, B. Nikula#	
White-rumped Sandpiper:				
20-21, 20	Duxbury, Rockport	2, 1	W. Petersen, R. Heil	
27	P.I.	2	P. Miliotis	
Dunlin:				
thr.	Duxbury	3500+	M. Moore	
7, 26	Winthrop, Newburyport	2500, 1200	R. Stymeist, R. Forster	
Long-billed Dowitcher:				
5, 11	Duxbury	1, 2	W. Petersen, S. Higginbotham	
11, 27	Newburyport, Duxbury	1-2, 2	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
Ereunetes: (sp. ?)				
7, 11; 20-21	Revere; Duxbury	20; 7, 5	R. Veit#; W. Petersen#	
Western Sandpiper:				
5-11&20-21	Duxbury	2&1	W. Petersen	
Marbled Godwit:				
23, 26	N. Plymouth, Duxbury	1, 1	fide M. Moore, B. Harrington	
Hudsonian Godwit:				
11, 21	P.I., Nauset	3, 1	R. Forster, v.o.	
<u>Northern Phalarope:</u>				
8	Salisbury	1	R. Emery#	
Parasitic Jaeger:				
6, 15	Eastham, Barnstable	12+, 2	B. Nikula#, R. Pease#	
Jaeger: (sp. ?)				
6	Eastham	7	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
Great Skua:				
12	Georges Bank	1	C. Scharf	
Glaucous Gull:				
1, 15	Mass. Bay, Eastham	1, 1	T. Lloyd-Evans, S. Higginbotham	
29	Manomet, Barnstable	1, 1	M. B. O. Staff, O. Kromer#	
29	Gloucester	1	G&H Champaux	
Iceland Gull:				
6-27	7 localities	9 individuals	v.o.	
27	E. Quabbin	1 imm.	F. Hamlen	
Gull: (sp. ?)				
17	Wellfleet-Orleans	40,000+	W. Bailey#	
<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull:</u>				
14	Wellfleet	1 ad.	B. Nikula, V. Saunders	
Black-headed Gull:				
7-27, 15	E. Boston, Eastham	4 ads., 1	R. Veit#, S. Higginbotham	
27-29	Newburyport	1 ad.	v.o.	
Laughing Gull:				
7, 27	Winthrop, Revere	85, 1	R. Stymeist#	

Little Gull:				
6,14	Eastham, Barnstable	1 ad., 1		W. Petersen#, R. Pease
25,29	Newburyport, Manomet	2 ad. & 2 imm., 1		R. Heil, T. Lloyd-Evans
<u>Sabine's Gull:</u> (excellent details received)				
18	Mass. Bay	1 imm.		T. Lloyd-Evans
Black-legged Kittiwake:				
6	Outer Cape	900+		W. Petersen & R. Forster
Common Tern:				
6,14	Provincetown	2,1		CCBC(J. Bryant), BBC(J. Bryant)
Razorbill:				
7,20	Rockport, Cape Ann	1,1		H. D'Entremont, L. Taylor#
21,26	Gloucester, P.I.	1,1		H. Ferris#, R. Forster
Common Murre:				
26	Provincetown	1		W. Bailey
Thick-billed Murre:				
6,11	Eastham, Provincetown & Nauset	2,1&1		W. Petersen, R. Veit
14-29	4 localities	8 individuals		v.o.
Dovekie:				
6;26	Eastham, Nantucket; Rockport	6,1;40-50		W. Petersen, C. Andrews; H. Weissberg
<u>Atlantic Puffin:</u>				
6	Eastham	1		W. Petersen
Barn Owl:				
26	Boston (Long Island)	1		R. Heil, M. Kasprzyk
Snowy Owl:				
4	Weston	1		Dr. Elliston
Long-eared Owl:				
thr.	So. Wellfleet (WBWS)	2		W. Bailey
Short-eared Owl:				
20	Salisbury	1		W. Scott#
Saw-whet Owl:				
14,17	Baldwinville, Boston	1,1		J. O'Regan, fide B. Litchfield
20-29	P.I.	1		v.o.
Red-bellied Woodpecker:				
14-30	Gloucester (E.P.)	1		FBC (R. Jenkins)
Red-headed Woodpecker:				
265	Quabbin Res.	1 m.		W. Byrne
14-20	Gloucester	1		S. Garrett & E. Pyburn & v.o.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:				
27	So. Wellfleet (WBWS)	1		W. Bailey
28	Vineyard Haven (M.V.)	1		fide M. Hancock
Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker:				
20	Gloucester	1		J. Nove#
Eastern Phoebe:				
7,16	Truro, Chilmark (M.V.)	1,1		F. Hamlen#, M. Hancock
Empidonax: (sp.?)				
7	Orleans	1		C. Goodrich & B. Nikula#
Horned Lark:				
21,28	Salisbury, Ipswich	160,200		BBC (P. Roberts), F. Marsh#
Tree Swallow:				
5,11,27	Lakeville, P.I., Bourne	2,2,1		W. Petersen, R. Forster, J. Flaherty
Barn Swallow:				
7	Orleans (North Beach)	2		B. Nikula#
Gray Jay:				
14-20	Dana	2		G&H Champoux & v.o.
Fish Crow:				
20	Brookline	3		A. Agush
House Wren:				
1-16,21	Lancaster, Melrose	1,1		H. Merriman, C. Jackson
28,29	W. Bridgewater, Falmouth	1,3		J. Flaherty, A. Clarke
Winter Wren:				
11&23,18	S. Peabody, Manomet	3&1,1 b.		R. Heil, M. B. O. Staff
26,28	Squantum, Vineyard Haven (M.V.)	1,1		M. Kasprzyk, M. Hancock
Long-billed Marsh Wren:				
12	Barnstable (S.N.)	1		B. Harrington#
Gray Catbird:				
15,21	Orleans, Braintree	1,1		S. Higginbotham, G. Wilson
Brown Thrasher:				
1,14-24	Falmouth, Chatham	1,1		A. Clarke, E. Fuller
15,25	Orleans, Gloucester	1,1		S. Higginbotham, H. Ferris

American Robin:			
7,11	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Peabody	80,150+	BBC(C.Marks),M.Kasprzyk
Varied Thrush: (no details)			
11	Rockport	1	M.Arey
Wood Thrush:			
15	Orleans	1	S.Higginbotham
Hermit Thrush:			
thr.	23 localities	78 individuals	v.o.
Swainson's Thrush:	many reported - no details		
Eastern Bluebird:			
3,7	Nantucket,Sterling	2,8	E.Andrews,H.Merriman
13,15	Bridgewater,Fitchburg	3,2	W.Petersen#,J.O'Regan#
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:			
28	Marblehead,Waltham	1,1	M.Kasprzyk,R.Stymeist
Water Pipit:			
4,13	Manchester,Bridgewater	100,60	P.Parsons#,W.Petersen#
Northern Shrike:			
thr.	Outer Cape	7-8	v.o.
6,9	Truro,Sudbury	1,1	J.Bryant,K.Hamilton
12,29	Rockport,Concord(GMNWR)	1 b.,1	O.Norris,B.Terkanian
White-eyed Vireo:			
3	Wellfleet	1	B.Nikula
Black-and-white Warbler:			
25	Bridgewater	1	J.Flaherty
Tennessee Warbler:			
1	Sandwich	1	R.Pease
Orange-crowned Warbler:			
5,15	Sandwich,Orleans	1,1	R.Pease,S.Higginbotham
19,27-29	Barnstable,P.I.	1,2-1	J.Loughlin#,P.Miliotis#
Nashville Warbler: (excellent details on Newton bird)			
15,30	Barnstable,Newton	1,1	R.Pease,F.Hamlen
Yellow-rumped Warbler:			
26	P.I.	100+	R.Forster
Blackpoll Warbler:			
1-15	8 localities	12 individuals	v.o.
25	Rochester,Barnstable	1,1	G.Mock,R.Pease
Pine Warbler:			
11	S.Peabody	4	R.Heil
Palm Warbler:			
20,21	Truro,Duxbury	1,1	F.Hamlen#,W.Petersen
Common Yellowthroat:			
23,28	S.Peabody,W.Bridgewater	1,1	K.Heil,J.Flaherty
Yellow-breasted Chat:			
4,20	Manomet,Barnstable	1 b.,1	M.B.O.Staff,R.Pease
Wilson's Warbler:			
14-21	Millis	1	S.Paine,J.Marshall
Eastern Meadowlark:			
7,8&20	Rowley,Framingham	32(together),15	R.Emery#,K.Hamilton
28	Ipswich	25	K.Marsh#
Yellow-headed Blackbird:			
20,22&23	Framingham,Nantucket	1 imm.,1	K.Hamilton,H.McHugh#
Red-winged Blackbird:			
25	Norwell	50+	M&B Litchfield
Northern Oriole:			
7 on	Middleboro	1-2	D.Briggs,C&W Corwin
12	Essex,Sudbury,P.I.	1,1,1	K.Tousey,R.Forster,J.Grugan
Rusty Blackbird:			
14,22	Truro,Nantucket	1,5	J.Bryant,G.Bachman
Brewer's Blackbird:			
14	Truro	1(from Oct.)	T.Lloyd-Evans
Common Grackle:			
6	W.Newbury	5000	M&A Argue
Rose-breasted Grosbeak:			
9-16,28	Scituate,N.Andover	1,1(injured)	L.Burbank,C.Kelleher
Dickcissel:			
thr.,5 on	Nantucket,Middleboro	1,1	E.Andrews,C&W Corwin
14-20,25&26	Abington,Beverly	1,1	E.Pearson,G.Soucy

Evening Grosbeak:			
5,16	Dover, Scituate	2,3	J. Marshall, L. Burbank
27,30	Byfield, Middleboro	26,50	T. Joyce, D. Briggs
House Finch:			
thr., 8	Middleboro, Framingham	30+, 25	D. Briggs, K. Hamilton
Pine Grosbeak:			
11,18	Wellfleet (WBWS), Manomet	2,1	W. Bailey, M. B. O. Staff
Pine Siskin:			
11,17	Nantucket	27,1 b.	E. Andrews
Red Crossbill:			
7,13	Eastham, P. I.	20,2	F. Hamlen#, BBC (P. Miliotis)
White-winged Crossbill:			
29	Rockport	4	R. Stone#
Rufous-sided Towhee:			
20-30	6 localities	7 individuals	v. o.
Savannah Sparrow:			
28	W. Bridgewater	75+	J. Flaherty
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
12,26	Sandwich, Newburyport	1,1	R. Pease, R. Forster
Seaside Sparrow:			
5	Barnstable	2	R. Pease
Vesper Sparrow:			
28	Clinton	1	H. Merriman
Dark-eyed Junco:			
2	Truro	750	N. Claflin#
Tree Sparrow:			
13	Concord (GMNWR)	35	BBC (D. Weaver)
Chipping Sparrow:			
15,25	Littleton, Rochester	1,3	J. Baird, G. Mock
<u>Clay-colored Sparrow:</u>			
2,7	Truro, P. I.	1,1	N. Claflin#, R. Emery#
White-crowned Sparrow:			
thr.	Groton	1	J. Broyles
White-throated Sparrow:			
thr.	Manomet	68 b.	M. B. O. Staff
Fox Sparrow:			
thr.	good flight		
Lincoln's Sparrow:			
20,27	Truro, Wellfleet	1,1	F. Hamlen#, C. Goodrich#
Swamp Sparrow:			
7,8	Everett, Framingham	40+, 120+	R. Stymeist#, K. Hamilton
Song Sparrow:			
8	Framingham	120+	K. Hamilton
Lapland Longspur:			
21	Salisbury	40	BBC (P. Roberts)
Snow Bunting:			
7,21	Truro, Nantucket	300, 100+	W. Petersen, B. Smith

Abbreviations

ad.	adult	FBC	Forbush Bird Club
b.	banded	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
f.	female	GMNWR	Great Meadows Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
imm.	immature	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
m.	male	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
max.	maximum	A. Pt.	Andrews Point, Rockport
pr.	pair	E. P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester
thr.	throughout	M. V.	Martha's Vineyard
v. o.	various observers	Mt. A.	Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
#	additional observers	P. I.	Plum Island
BBC	Brookline Bird Club	S. N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club		