

THRUSHES THROUGH FINCHES

A Townsend's Solitaire, the 6th for the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean area, brightened Roberval 16 Apr (L. Chiricota). Representing the 4th record for the Region, a **Fieldfare** was detected in a flock of migrating Am. Robins at Les Escoumins 20 Apr (CA, CG); according to the observers, its unmarked blue-gray head and very pale rump suggested a male. As proposed by P. Green (1998, *Birding* 30:212-219), this bird was presumably returning to its breeding ground in Greenland or n. Europe after wintering in N. America. A migrant Gray Catbird at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 9 Apr was only 2 days short of a record arrival date (P. Beaulé), but how to consider an individual present at a Mont-Laurier feeder 15 Mar (A. Ouellette, M. Ouellette, *vide* R. LeBrun). Was it a very early migrant or a bird wintering undetected locally? A huge influx of Bohemian Waxwings included several flocks of 5000–10,000 birds in the Québec City area in mid-March (*vide* JL), 10,800 at Chicoutimi 18 Mar (M. Savard), and 10,000 at Rimouski 25 Apr (J. Larivée, D. Gagné).

Now almost annual, single Blue-winged Warblers appeared at Frelighsburg 27 May (JG. Papineau, H. Jetten) and at Cap Tourmente 30 May (FD, RD, GL). A Golden-winged Warbler at Haldimand 27 May provided the first record for the Gaspé Pen. (M. Morency), and a Worm-eating Warbler at Westmount 18 May was the 13th for the Montreal area (P. Tarassov et al.).

An ad. male W. Tanager photographed at Franquelin 22–27 May was the 14th for the Region (D. Rousseau, N. Perreault, *vide* G. Cyr). Clay-colored Sparrows showed up in 8 different localities 22–30 May. Northern Cardinals are maintaining their presence in the Québec City area as evidenced by the report of numerous pairs (*vide* JL). One was found at Saint-Eusèbe in the lower St. Lawrence 22 Apr (M. Beaulieu). Unreported in the Montreal area since 1982, a W. Meadowlark at Hudson 1 May onwards represented a notable event (W. Grubert et al.). Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds were encountered at Montreal 15–28 Apr (G. Larivée) and at Berthierville 3 May. The four Orchard Orioles represented an exceptional total and included an adult at Philipsburg 15 May (C. Chalks, E. Mitchell), a first year male at L'Acadie 15 May (M. Arnaudin) and two first-year males at Cap Tourmente 29 May, with one remaining to 30 May (D. Campeau, GL). The House Finch continued to infiltrate e. Québec as shown by 4 reports for the lower St. Lawrence, two for the Gaspé Pen., and one for the North Shore. An

Eur. Goldfinch at Rivière Saint-Jean 15 May was apparently a first for the lower North Shore (CB).

NON-NATIVE

Two Chinese Geese were at Yamachiche Pt. 14 Apr (M. Bisson). A N. Bobwhite was reported from Hemmingford 31 May (D. Smith), although listing the species in this category is somewhat debatable. A pair of Ringed Turtle-Doves raised 2 broods during the season in Le Gardeur, near Montreal, where the species has been reported in the last 3–4 years (*vide* PB).

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new england region

SIMON PERKINS

Three meteorological phenomena were worthy of note this spring. The first two had little discernible effect on birds, but the third did. (1) The backlash immediately following the passage of several storms in early March brought the most severe conditions of the entire winter—a winter ranked as one of the mildest on record. (2) Precipitation levels in April were the lowest on record (there was no snowfall whatsoever in Boston), and the season as a whole was warm and dry. (3) For the second consecutive year, north and/or northeasterly winds prevailed nearly every day throughout late April and the first half of May. As with last year, the unfavorable wind pattern that persisted during what should have been the peak period of migration made for a relatively slow spring. Waves were few and far between.

Highlights included two Pink-footed Geese, a possibly wild Trumpeter Swan, a Garganey, two Wilson's Plovers, two kite species, three Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in Massachusetts, all on the same day, and a Lark Bunting. For the first time in several years no Little Egrets were reported.

Abbreviations: H.B.S.P. (*Hammonasset Beach S.P., Madison, CT*); Nantucket (*Nantucket I., MA*); M.A.R.C. (*Massachusetts Avian Records Committee*); MV (*Martha's Vineyard, Dukes*



Co., MA); Monomoy (*Monomoy Island N.W.R., Chatham, MA*); P.R.N.W.R. (*Parker River N.W.R., Essex Co., MA*).

LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

The M.A.R.C. recently added Pacific Loon to the state list. Prior to this move, the Committee had listed all Pacific-types as "Arctic/Pacific." Two Pacifics reported in New England this spring were both in Massachusetts, in Provincetown 6–20 Mar (BN) and off Bass Rocks in Gloucester 14 May (RSH). A **Western Grebe** was in Manchester, MA, 12–14 May (RSH); another in

Jamestown 3 Mar–20 Apr (*fide* DE) may have been the same individual first found in Newport in December 1998. Among at least 6 reports of migrant Red-necked Grebes inland was a count of 10 in Southwick, MA, 12 Apr; two that left the coast early were already at this locale by 22 Mar (SK). A Manx Shearwater at Newcastle (Whaleback Light), NH, 2 May (M. Suomala) represented a rare shore-based sighting for the Granite State, and a Manx near Oak Bluffs, MV, 23 Apr (VL) was a bit early.

A Least Bittern, flushed from a water hazard on a golf course in Vasselboro, ME, 13 May (R. Spinney) must have been the golfer's equivalent of an "eagle." Herons wandering inland included single Little Blues in S. Thomaston and Orono, ME, 10 Apr and 2 May, respectively (WT), another in Thetford, VT, 2 May (T. Levin), a Snowy Egret far afield in Grand Isle, VT, 16 May (DH), and four Great Egrets in Orange, MA, 31 May (L. Roussel), with another in the Connecticut R. Valley, in W. Springfield, MA, 15 May (J. Zepko). Single inland Cattle Egrets were in Grafton and Hollis, NH, 19 Apr (A. Payne, ph.) and 27 May (R. Andrews), respectively, and another was found in S. Hadley, MA, 5 May (HA). Black Vultures have become so common in w. Connecticut (where they now almost certainly breed) that individuals are no longer enumerated by local compilers. Several, seen regularly every summer in Sheffield, MA, in the s. Berkshires just over the Connecticut state line in extreme s.w. Massachusetts, may be breeding locally as well. Yet, a pair that raised one chick in Milton, MA, in 1997 still represents the only confirmed nesting record for the species in New England. Other Massachusetts reports included individuals in Northampton 9 May (T. Gagnon), Barre 7–8 May (ML), and Truro 11 May (E.M.H.W.); another was in Exeter, RI, 22–23 Apr (M. Tucker). Two unconfirmed reports came from Maine.

WATERFOWL

Geese made all sorts of news this spring. A well-described/sketched **Pink-footed Goose** at Grand Isle/N. Hero, VT, 31 Mar–1 Apr (DH) represented the first record for this species in Vermont (pending Committee review), and the 3rd record in New England within the last 13 months. The 2nd Regional Pink-footed appeared in December in Dennis, MA, and remained there at least through 11 Apr. Information compiled by the Avian Records Committee of Connecticut, following the appearance of a

Pink-footed Goose last March (*Field Notes* 52(3)), convinced this compiler that the recent occurrences of this species in the Northeast have involved *bona fide* vagrants. And speaking of Greenland geese, Greater White-fronted Geese have become routine in s. New England within about the last 10 years. Curiously, the largest migrant flocks of geese in the Region, the Snows and Canadas in n. Vermont, rarely contain white-fronteds. Even though the Vermont (Greater) Snows and Canadas come from different nesting grounds than the white-fronteds, it seems odd that wayward white-fronteds would not gravitate to these huge flocks more frequently given the greater numbers of them that now occur annually elsewhere in the Region. White-fronteds numbered three in Rhode Island, two in Connecticut, and a below-average one in Massachusetts. The Bay State bird, in Amherst 2–4 Mar (HA), represented only the 3rd record for w. Massachusetts, the first being only 14 years ago (*fide* SK). Both Connecticut birds appeared to the observer's eye to be pink-billed, indicative of the North American subspecies (M. Szantyr).

Snow Geese were numerous, especially at their New England stronghold in the L. Champlain Valley, VT; roughly 12,000–15,000 were counted in N. Hero, VT, 26–27 Mar (DH). Also in the Champlain Valley, **Ross's Geese** continue to come on strong. The first spring Ross's Goose in New England was found in Vermont less than 5 years ago; 4 reports there this year included an individual in Grand Isle 31 Mar (DH), two in Ferrisburgh 5 Apr, and a *blue* morph in Charlotte 20 Mar. Several small, Arctic-nesting Canada Geese appeared in New England in early spring. An individual identified as *minima*, described as being smaller than a Snow Goose, and possessing a dark brown breast and a white neck collar, was found among roughly 3000 Snows in Grand Isle, VT, 1 Apr (C. Provost); single geese identified as *hutchinsii* were in Marshfield, MA, 11 Mar–23 Apr (D. Furbish) and Thetford, VT, late Mar–early Apr (*fide* W. Scott). No doubt these small geese will continue to attract attention as long as rumors persist that some of them might be split. Another small Canada Goose in Newbury, MA, 4 Apr (RSH) may have been *parvipes*. Brant are always noteworthy away from the coast. The only birds detected inland this spring were 55 in Haverhill, NH, 28 Mar (J. Williams), a sighting also unusual for its early date; most do not depart overland in New England before mid-April.

All 4 N. Hemisphere swan species were

reported in New England this spring. Single Tundra Swans were noted in Naples, ME, 1–21 Mar (B. Crowley), Rutland, VT, 4 Apr (WE & NM), and Trustrom Pond, RI, 9–14 Mar (*fide* M. Tucker), and six were near the Connecticut R. in Haverhill, NH, 2–4 Mar (R. Bradley et al.). The Whooper Swans in Essex, MA, numbered at least seven through early May. A **Trumpeter Swan**, identified among a large flock of Mutes, was at the mouth of the Housatonic R., in Stratford, CT, 17–21 May (F. Gallo et al.). The origin of the Trumpeter was not determined, but such sightings have been more or less expected since the U.S.F.W.S. initiated a reintroduction program in the upper Midwest. Trumpeters now nest in Michigan, they are established year round in s e Ontario, and individuals have reached Pennsylvania.

As usual virtually all of the Region's total of 15 Eur. Wigeon were either on or within a stone's throw of the coast. The only exception was a bird in Panton, VT, 4 Apr (WE & NM). Likewise, the only inland Barrow's Goldeneyes were two at Grand Isle, VT, 19 Apr (DH). Eight N. Shovelers on the Connecticut R. at Turner's Falls, MA, 3 Apr (HA et al.) represented a high total for an inland locale. An impressive count of 350 N. Pintails came from Cornwall, VT, 27 Mar (P. Pratt), and Maine's 2nd **Garganey**, a drake, was in S. Thomaston 10–18 Apr (M. Libby et al.). Garganeys were also reported during this same general period in both Iowa and Nebraska. A Com. Teal was in the same marsh as the Garganey 13–17 Mar (B. Volkle et al.), and others were in Milford, CT, through the end of March (D. Varza et al.), in Newbury, MA, 27 Mar (D&T Donsker), and in W. Harwich, MA, 3 Apr (BN). An apparent hybrid teal at the P.R.N.W.R. 2 May (RSH) possessed both the vertical white stripe at the side of the breast typical of Green-winged, as well as the white stripe along the scapulars typical of Common.

Overwintering **Tufted Ducks** lingered into the spring in Massachusetts, with a hen in Westport 14–27 Mar (R. Farrell et al.) and a drake in Clinton 25–26 Mar (R. Quimby). The latter bird moved to Westminster 30 Mar–4 Apr (T. Pirro et al.) In Connecticut, a hen Tufted Duck was found inland at Bantam L. on the very late date of 26 May (D. Tripp). Surf Scoters were unusually numerous in coastal Massachusetts this past winter and that trend carried into the spring. A raft of 675 staging birds was noted in Marshfield 11 Apr (Gd'E), <350 were still at Nantucket in mid-May

(SP), and 70 lingered until 22 May at Monomoy (WRP). In w. Massachusetts, seven migrant Long-tailed Ducks put down in Ludlow 4 Apr (HA), early migrant Red-breasted Mergansers were found on the Connecticut R. in late March (B. Lafley), and in Connecticut a large staging flock of 1600 Com. Mergansers was noted in New Preston 2 Apr (T. Baptist).

KITES THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Mississippi Kite and **Swallow-tailed Kite** were seen only in Connecticut this year, both 12 May in Redding (J. Carlisle) and Greenwich (D. Smith), respectively. A pair of Cooper's Hawks nesting at Nantucket 8 May (AW) represented the first breeding record for the island. In Massachusetts, the main thrust of migrant Sharp-shinned Hawks came a bit late, as evidenced by counts of 99 in Truro (E.M.H.W.) and 123 at P.R.N.W.R. (TC), both 10 May. Also 10 May, totals at P.R.N.W.R. included eight Bald Eagles and 11 Merlins, both high counts for so late a date, at Truro the same day 48 Broad-winged and five late Peregrine Falcons were tallied. Flocks of Broad-winged are a regular feature at this site well into June. Birds involved in these late flights are almost always yearlings shunted to the narrows of the outer Cape by SW winds. This same phenomenon also makes the outer Cape the most reliable place in New England at this time of year for kites, though none was seen there this year. Only one Golden Eagle was reported, in Victory, VT, 27 Apr (D. Narins). The spring total of 1291 Am. Kestrels counted at the P.R.N.W.R. was an all-time high for the state. One-day counts in April alone included 297 on 7 Apr, 170 the next day, 257 on 18 Apr, and 193 on 26 Apr (TC). A pair of Merlins observed copulating, and present at the same location in Lewiston, ME, throughout most of April, may have nested locally. If confirmed it probably would have represented the southernmost nesting occurrence in New England. This year, the only confirmed nesting s. of the Canadian border was in Vermont. A pair nested in Johnson, where the species first bred in the state in 1997, and another pair returned to Windsor, where they nested last year (*vide* JP).

King Rail reports included one in Bolton, MA, 10–21 Apr (R. Lockwood et al.), and a pair in W. Bridgewater, MA, 14 May (SA). Single Sandhill Cranes were in Proctor, VT, 25 Apr (J. Curtis), S. Windsor, CT, 3 May (C. Rafford), and Monroe, NH, 27–31 May (m.ob., *vide* PH). American Oystercatchers that returned again to Saco

and Scarborough, ME, were noteworthy despite their nesting at the s. tip of Nova Scotia since 1997. In that same year (but not since), another pair nested on Green I., Washington, ME, which is actually farther north than s. Nova Scotia. American Golden-Plovers, scarce in the Region in spring, were found in Massachusetts in Edgartown 16 Apr (VL) and Chatham 15 May (J. Sones et al.). Two **Wilson's Plovers** visited the Region. A male was a bit earlier than usual at Seawall Beach, Phippsburg, ME (PDV) 9 May, and a female was especially so in Newport, RI, 20–23 Apr (DJA et al.).

A **Western Sandpiper** in Edgartown, MA, 30 May (A. Keith) was a rare spring find. Ruffs were reported only from Massachusetts. Newburyport Harbor remains the most reliable place for this annual visitor, and a male appeared there right on schedule 9 May (RSH). A Reeve lingered in E. Boston 3–13 May (J. Young), and another male was found in Ipswich on the very early date of 31 Mar (RSH). A total of 343 Com. Snipe in 2 fields in W. Bridgewater, MA, 7 Apr (SA) represented the 2nd highest count recorded in the state. The record-dry conditions throughout the Northeast probably accounted for this unusually high concentration of migrants. A single Red-necked Phalarope visited a small suburban pond far from the coast in New Canaan, CT, 19 May (E. Johnson); three were barely inland on a reservoir in Milton, MA, 7 May (Gd'E), and two others were roughly 10 mi from the coast at the Great Meadows N.W.R. in Concord, MA, 19 & 21 May (SP, K. Dorsey).

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS

In Connecticut, Little Gulls were reported as being "widespread" on Long I. Sound (*vide* GH); multiples included three in W. Haven 7 Apr (F. Mantlik) and another three in Stamford in mid-April (P. Dugan). A total of four were in Massachusetts, and one was in New Hampshire. State totals of Black-headed Gulls included seven in Maine, two in New Hampshire, 12 in Massachusetts, and eight in Rhode Island. Despite being common during migration both on the coast and L. Champlain, VT, Bonaparte's Gulls are seldom found inland away from Champlain, so a migrant discovered in Gardner, Worcester, MA, 3 Apr (T. Pirro) was noteworthy. A report of a Thayer's Gull, lacking details, came from Jonesport, ME, 27 Mar (*vide* K. Gammons). Among a total of roughly 20 Lesser Black-backed Gulls reported from all states except Vermont and New Hampshire, three were

at a landfill in Manchester, CT, 30 Apr–3 May (P. Comins) and an individual in breeding plumage was inland in Windsor, ME, 7–8 Apr (W. Sumner et al.).

One of 10 Caspian Terns reported from Massachusetts was inland on Wachusett Res., Worcester, 29 May (S. Carroll). Also, three were reported from Rhode Island, and one–two from Connecticut. Most Royal Terns appear in the Region in the summer, once coastal waters have warmed. This year, however, two appeared in Massachusetts in late May: one at Nantucket 23 May (AW) and the other in Plymouth 31 May (C. Floyd). Each year upon returning from their wintering grounds, hundreds of Roseate Terns usually spend 1–2 weeks at Nantucket, refueling and recharging their batteries, before they settle into their colonies on 2 islands off Marion and Mattapoisett, MA. Eighty at Muskeget I., just n.w. of Nantucket, 16 May (SP et al.) were assumed at the time to be doing the same, but see the summer report. . . .

Following a winter that brought an unusually high number of alcids to inshore waters, murrees especially lingered into spring. Thick-billed were reported as "still relatively common" through early March along the New Hampshire coast (*vide* PH). Nine were seen off Bar Harbor, ME, 9 Mar (*vide* JD), and in Massachusetts counts included 30+ at Provincetown 2 Mar (BN) and 85 at Cape Ann, Essex, 11 Mar (RSH). Ten Commons were noted off Provincetown 6 Mar (BN) and one was still in Wellfleet Harbor 15 May (E. Neumuth et al.). The center of winter abundance of Razorbill in New England is in shoal waters around Cape Cod and Nantucket. In recent years they have been found more regularly in waters farther west, such as in Vineyard Sound (between the Elizabeth Is. and Martha's Vineyard) and off Rhode Island. Locally high counts of 300 in Vineyard Sound 1–2 Mar (VL) and 55 from Pt. Judith, RI, 1 Mar (*vide* M. Tucker), were indicative of this trend, as was the appearance of an outlier in Long I. Sound, at Stonington, CT, 3 Apr (*vide* GH). Atlantic Puffins are always scarce inshore away from breeding colonies. Reports from Massachusetts included one in Rockport 1 Mar (M. Resch) and two each in Provincetown 19 Mar (R. Titus) and Barnstable 31 Mar (B. Good).

PARAKEETS THROUGH THRUSHES

Monk Parakeets continue to occupy "nests" in at least 3 towns near the Rhode Island border in s.e. Massachusetts. To date none

has been known to produce young. All colonies in Connecticut are on the coast, so the discovery of two in Hamden, CT, 9 Apr (A. Brand), roughly 10 mi inland, was noteworthy. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Framingham, MA, 12 Apr (K. Hamilton) was early, as was a Chimney Swift in Pittsfield, MA, 8 Apr (T. Collins). A Red-bellied Woodpecker at Monhegan I., ME, 18 May (BB), continued to press northward (and eastward) the margins of its species' range. A total of 25 territorial N. Saw-whet Owls tallied during a 2-week, mid-spring survey within several towns in Berkshire, MA, providing insight into the status of a species whose true abundance, like that of most nocturnal species, remains largely a matter of conjecture (R. Rancatti). Away from Martha's Vineyard, where the species has been suspected of breeding for years, Chuck-will's-widow is a rare visitor, though spring reports on Cape Cod have become more or less annual. Chucks found away from the Cape and islands were heard in Montague, MA, 29 May (HA), Wakefield, RI, 10–12 May (J. Ryans), and Chester, CT, 2 May (P. Pendergast).

The pair of pioneering Acadian Flycatchers in New Hampshire, the first to nest in the state last year, appeared again at Pawtuckaway S.P., in Nottingham, 17 May (AD). A **Western Kingbird**, a species routine in fall but rare in spring, was found at H.B.S.P. 26 May (C. Rafford). That one was found at this same location last year on almost the same date (30 May) raises the question as to whether the 2 sightings involved the same individual. Even more remarkable was the appearance of three different **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** on the same day, 31 May, in Massachusetts in Miller's Falls (ML), Montague (*fide* SK), and Nantucket (J. Stewart, ph.). Two Fish Crows, presumably the same two that established a first state nesting record there last year, returned in May to S. Burlington, VT (*fide* JP). And while Fish Crows continued to make history at the n. limit of their range, Com. Ravens were extending their breeding range in New England farther southward. A pair nested within 10 mi of Long I. Sound, in Hamden, CT (J. Zipp). Another pair nested equally close to the sound in Ledyard, CT, in 1994. The southeastern-most breeding pair of ravens in the Bay State, which produced two young, was in a quarry in Ashland (T. French). Others in Massachusetts well e. of known nesting sites included a single bird in Dedham, MA, 3 May (WRP), and a pair in Boxford, Essex, 10 Apr (S. Moore). Ravens have been noted

at this latter locality for the past several springs, though not into June. If they do not already nest somewhere in Essex, they may soon. A Sedge Wren, presumably a migrant and not a local nester, made a cameo appearance in Provincetown, MA, 15 May (G. Wood). A Varied Thrush that spent part of the winter at a feeder in Pembroke, NH, was last seen 12 Mar (*fide* PH).

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

For the most part warbler migration was unremarkable, probably due at least in part to the preponderance of easterly winds during late April and the first half of May. A few surges were large enough to draw comment from locals. R. Soffer in Connecticut, who has been monitoring Sherwood Island S.P. in Westport for many years, found "the place swarming with passerines" 6 May; he recorded 16 warbler species. Three days later, immediately following May's first wind shift to the south, the first sizable wave arrived across a broad front in Massachusetts. Most of the traditional sites in e. Massachusetts, such as the P.R.N.W.R. and Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, produced notable numbers, as did the Connecticut R. Valley; 19 warbler species were recorded that day in the Valley in Hadley (P. Champlin).

A remarkable Black-throated Blue Warbler that survived the winter at a feeder in Stratham, NH, was last reported 17 Apr (S. Mirick). A **Connecticut Warbler** at Monhegan 25 May (BB) furnished a rare spring record for the Region. Each spring southern warblers such as Kentucky, Yellow-throated, and Prothonotary overshoot the n. limits of their breeding range, and occasionally they reach points well north (and east) of Boston—sometimes as far as the Canadian Maritimes. However, the only one reported in the Region n. of Boston this year was a Yellow-throated at Monhegan 11 May (BB).

Summer Tanagers and Blue Grosbeaks also overshoot each spring into New England. Northernmost among a total of 13 tanagers were eight in Massachusetts, two in Vermont, and one at Monhegan. The northernmost Blue Grosbeaks, both in Maine, were at Monhegan 24 May (BB) and Durham 18 May (B. Watson). In light of the fact that at least three W. Tanagers were seen last winter in Massachusetts alone, two of those on Cape Cod, it came as no surprise that an ad. male was reported from Truro, MA, 22 May (K. Gentalen, *fide* BN).

An over-wintering Lark Sparrow in Salisbury, MA, was last reported 3 Apr (M.

Halloran et al.), and a well-described male **Lark Bunting** in W. Windsor, VT, 27 May (J. Sangdahl) furnished a rare spring record for the Region. Clay-colored Sparrows, which first nested in the Region in Maine in 1996, have sustained a presence each spring, though they have not bred again. Among the total of six, three reported from Vermont and two of three in Maine appeared in late May. The only Dickcissel was in Belchertown, MA, 21–22 May (S. Sumner) A male Boat-tailed Grackle returned to Stratford, CT, 3 Apr (C. Barnhard). Though this species has nested here in previous years, no females were found and the male was not reported after mid-May. Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at Cherryfield, ME, 1 May (K. deRochemont), Guilford, VT, 28 May (S. James), and Nantucket, MA, 1–31 Mar (EFA). The last bird spent most of the winter at a local feeder.

In s. New England, northern finches were virtually absent throughout the winter, so the appearances of a single Com Redpoll in Ipswich 10 Mar (JB), and Pine Grosbeak at the P.R.N.W.R. 14 Mar (RSH), were somewhat anomalous. The report of a possible Lesser Goldfinch at Monhegan 28 May (*fide* L. Brinker), though unsubstantiated, was nonetheless intriguing in light of the fact that the only previous Regional report came from Maine in 1993.

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