

BBC PELAGIC 11.10.12

Naeem Yusuff

The Brookline Bird Club ran another great pelagic birding trip out of Hyannis on November 10th. Late fall weather often conspires against us, we were fortunate to have a calm day and get out on the water. Seaducks in the Nantucket Shoals and in the vicinity of Monomoy island put on quite a show. Most remarkable perhaps were the number of winter finches encountered over open water - Pine Siskins, White-winged Crossbills and Redpolls were notable "pelagic" species seen on the trip.

Trip totals were compiled by our team of fearless leaders, including Marshall Iliff, James Smith, Jeremiah Trimble. This was the "swan song" trip for Steve Mirick who will be retiring at the end of this season. His often colorful narration of the bird sightings will be missed.

Thanks as always to Ida Giriunas who makes these trips happen.

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10 Nov - 6:30am-3:00 pm Route: Roughly to South Monomoy, north to waters east of Chatham, then south-southeast to waters east of

Great Point, then west to Great Point, then north to Hyannis.

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Brant	11	Hyannis Harbor	
Canada Goose		16	Monomoy
Mute Swan	1		Great Point
Gadwall	3		Great Point (2), Hyannis Harbor (1)
Mallard	6		Hyannis Harbor
Common Eider	40,210		most off South Monomoy (25000) with 15000 north of there
Surf Scoter	2,185		most in Nantucket Sound and off Monomoy
White-winged Scoter	882		most in Nantucket Sound and off Monomoy
Black Scoter	536		most in Nantucket Sound and off Monomoy
Surf/Black Scoter	1,200		most in Nantucket Sound and off Monomoy
Long-tailed Duck	625		most in Nantucket Sound and off Monomoy
Bufflehead	6		Hyannis Harbor
Red-breasted Merganser	10		
Common/Red-breasted Merganser		4	far offshore
Red-throated Loon	37		

Common Loon	154	
Horned Grebe	2	Great Point
Red-necked Grebe	1	one well offshore, which was odd
Great Shearwater	25	Rather low count
Manx Shearwater	8	
shearwater sp.	2	likely Great Shearwaters
Northern Gannet	623	
Double-crested Cormorant	52	Most nearshore
Great Blue Heron	3	Hyannis Harbor (2), Great Point (1)
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1	Hyannis Harbor
Northern Harrier	2	one seen flying offshore!
Sanderling	2	Great Point
White-rumped Sandpiper	4	flybys at South Monomoy; photos
American Woodcock	1	flew in off ocean at South Monomoy
Red Phalarope	1	Seen by a few offshore
Black-legged Kittiwake	317	
Bonaparte's Gull	29	
Ring-billed Gull	21	
Herring Gull	324	
Iceland Gull	1	adult 'Kumlien's' at South Monomoy
Lesser Black-backed Gull	3	adult; South Monomoy
Great Black-backed Gull	90	
Common Tern	2	outside Hyannis Harbor
Sterna sp.	2	outside Hyannis Harbor
Pomarine Jaeger	10	Good looks at a range of plumages and morphs
Parasitic Jaeger	1	One bird seen well chasing a kittiake but it did not stick around for long
Dovekie	1	One flyby heading right across bow spotted by James P. Smith
Common Murre	1	one on water offshore; seen by a few
Razorbill	42	
Rock Pigeon	27	Hyannis Harbor
Mourning Dove	1	Hyannis Harbor
Peregrine Falcon	1	South Monomoy
American Crow	17	Hyannis Harbor and Great Point
Horned Lark	20	South Monomoy
European Starling	1	flyby offshore!
Red-winged Blackbird	6	over South Monomoy
White-winged Crossbill	1	flyby offshore!
Common Redpoll	7	two groups of birds seen offshore
Pine Siskin	5	Including our trip mascot, who rode with us for the entire trip back

finch sp. 5 likely siskins

House Sparrow 10 Hyannis Harbor

OTHER FAUNA:

Gray Seal - 500 on Monomoy, 200 on Great Point

Humpback Whale - 7

whale sp. - 5

dolphin sp. - 5