An Annotated List of BIRDS OF CHIGNECTO NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA Cumberland Co., N.S.

NWA Chiquecto Stuart I. Tingley May, 1981

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Cumberland Co., N.S.

Stuart I. Tingley Canadian Wildlife Service Sackville, N.B. May, 1981

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## Introduction

Chignecto National Wildlife Area is composed of two adjacent units -Amherst Point Migratory Bird Sanctuary composed of some 470 hectares of lakes, impounded and natural fresh marshes, fields in various stages of regeneration, and mature upland forests - and the John Lusby Salt Marsh which contains approximately 600 hectares of coastal salt marsh including 2 brackish impoundments. This tremendous diversity of habitat within the wildlife areas' boundaries has resulted in an equally impressive diversity of avian life being recorded - 228 species of birds to date. Of this total, over 100 may breed within or near the national wildlife area.

Established as a federal sanctuary in 1947, APBS has long been a favoured birdwatching locale of naturalists in the Amherst-Sackville area. Personnel from the CWS office in Sackville, also established in 1947, frequently visited the sanctuary and kept notes of their observations, providing most of the earlier records cited in this report. In recent years, particularly since the establishment of the Chignecto Naturalists' Club in 1973, the area has been visited much more regularly by local naturalists.

The John Lusby Salt Marsh has long been recognized as a favourite staging area for Canada Geese (especially in spring) and a variety of ducks and shorebirds. However, little information is available on bird occurrence prior to acquisition of the marsh as part of the Chignecto National Wildlife Area in 1966-67.

### Terminology and Definitions

#### ABUNDANCE

Very Rare - occurs at most about once every five years.

Rare - has occurred several times, though not annually.

- <u>Uncommon</u> occurs annually, but can often be missed in a full day's birding in suitable habitat even at peak season.
- Fairly Common at least one should be seen or heard in a full day's birding in suitable habitat at peak season.
- <u>Common</u> at least several should be seen or heard in a full day's birding in a suitable habitat at peak season.
- <u>Very Common</u> several should be seen or heard in a short birding trip in suitable habitat at peak season.

#### STATUS

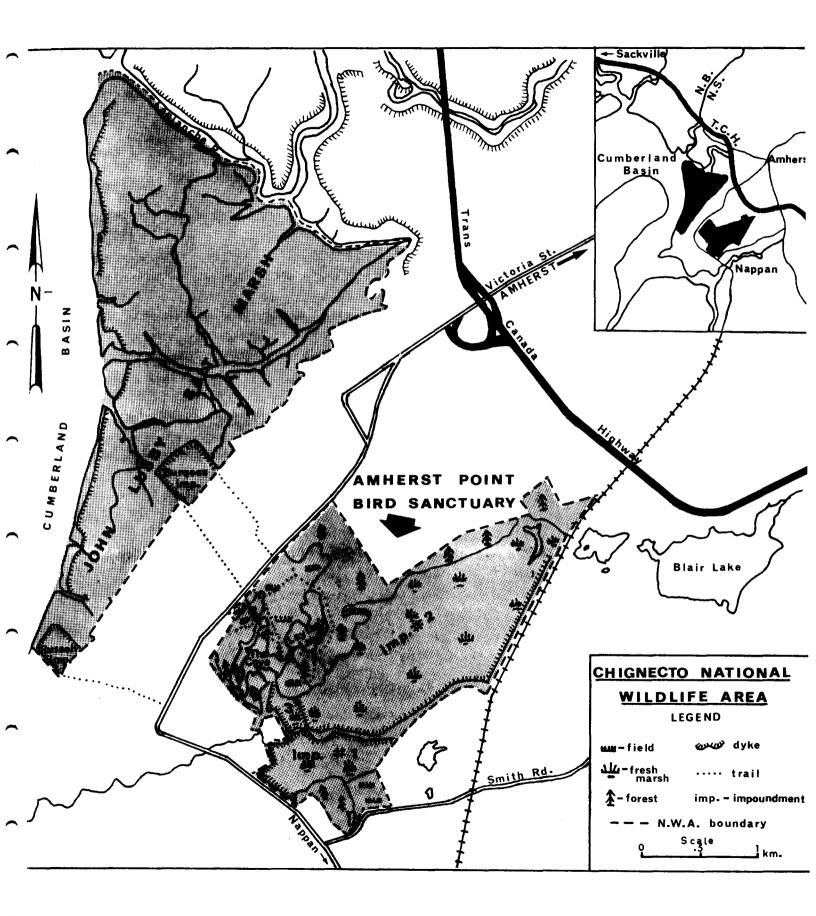
- <u>Residents</u> breeding species; may occur as summer residents or permanent residents.
- <u>Transients</u> birds of passage which occur in spring and/or fall on migration to their nesting or wintering areas.
- <u>Visitants</u> non-breeding birds which occur as temporary visitors in a specific season or irregularly in any season.

BREEDING STATUS (following scientific name)

- B = nests annually and in substantial numbers (more than 5 pairs), though direct evidence may be lacking.
- b = nests occasionally and/or in very low numbers (less than 5 pairs), though direct evidence may be lacking.
- b? = possibly nests occasionally, or even annually in low numbers, though evidence is lacking.

# Nomenclature

All English and scientific names used in this report are those approved by the American Ornithologist's Union in their Check-list of North American Birds (5th ed., 1957) and all subsequent supplements.



1. COMMON LOON (Gavia immer)

Status: Rare to uncommon transient and summer visitant.

Habitat: Layton's Lake, occasionally on John Lusby marsh impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - several observations, earliest Apr. 23/80, Apr. 24/76, Apr. 28/74.

> <u>Summer</u> - adults in breeding plumage remained on Layton's Lake for part of the summers of 1974, 1975 and 1978.

<u>Fall</u> - two observations only - Oct. 21/73 and Oct. 25/80. <u>Note</u>: Most observations were made on Layton's Lake. Despite an almost annual occurrence in the past decade, there has been no indication of breeding, as all records involve single birds except for 2 (one in non-breeding plumage) on June 3/75. Layton's Lake is undoubtedly too small to accommodate a pair of nesting loons.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - Oct.

2. RED-THROATED LOON (Gavia stellata)

Status: Very rare fall transient.

Occurrence: Two observations of single birds both in Layton's Lake -Oct. 20/73 (S. Tingley) and Oct. 23/76 (C. Desplanque).

<u>Note</u>: This and the following two species probably cross the Isthmus of Chignecto between the Bay of Fundy and Northumberland Strait annually in small numbers, especially in the fall.

3. RED-NECKED GREBE (Podiceps grisegena)

Status: Very rare fall transient.

Occurrence: Two observations only - 2 birds on Oct. 8-10/73 (C. Desplanque, S. Tingley) in Layton's Lake, and an adult still retaining most of its breeding plumage in impoundment #2 on Sept. 21/80 (A. J. Erskine).

4. HORNED GREBE (Podiceps auritus)

Status: Very rare fall transient.

- Occurrence: Three records of single birds Oct. 24/60 (A.J. Erskine), Oct. 21-22/72 (C. Desplanque), and Oct. 14/75 (R. Burrows).
- 5. PIED-BILLED GREBE (Podilymbus podiceps) B

Status: Very common transient and summer resident.

- Habitat: Impounded and natural fresh marshes at Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary, rarely John Lusby Marsh.
- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> arrives soon after disappearance of ice from marshes, earliest Apr. 1/76, Apr. 7/80. Median arrival date for the past decade is approximately Apr. 14. Latest first arrival date was Apr. 28/72, an exceptionally late spring. Ten to 15 is a typical daily count through May.
  - <u>Summer</u> nests commonly in all suitable habitat. Egg dates for 15 nests range from June 1 (8 eggs) to July 16. The first young usually appear on the marshes during the last week of June, occasionally earlier

(e.g. 2 young on June 7/74). Probably 30-40 pairs now nest annually in the sanctuary.

- Fall Numbers seem to drop rapidly after early October, though a few remain annually late into November. Latest Nov. 21/73 (1), Nov. 17/79 (5), Nov. 16/75 (3).
- Note: Despite the species abundance at Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary, only two observations are on file for the John Lusby Marsh, 1 in the Russel impoundment in late Aug./73 and 1 in the Burgess impoundment on Sept. 18/79. Very rarely is this species seen in flight, migrating at night, and invariably choosing to dive rather than take flight when approached.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - mid Nov.

6. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax auritus)

Status: Uncommon transient and fairly common summer visitant. Habitat: Layton's Lake, deeper channels and canals in impounded marsh.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - occurs annually in small numbers. Earliest Apr. 2/78 (exceptional), Apr. 23/80 (2), Apr. 24/77 (1), Apr. 24/76 (2). Max<sup>m</sup> 22 on Apr. 25/73, though most records are of 1 or 2 birds only.

> <u>Summer</u> - in recent years, small numbers (4-8) of nonbreeding birds have summered annually near impoundment #2, roosting on the wooden hydro

poles which traverse the marsh, and feeding mainly in the canal between impoundments #1 and 2. <u>Fall</u> - very few available records after early August, latest Sept. 27/77 (1), Sept. 25/76 (1).

<u>Note:</u> Most summering birds are in sub-adult plumage showing a variable amount of white on the underparts.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - Sept.

7. GREAT BLUE HERON (Ardea herodias)

Status: Common transient and uncommon summer visitant.

Habitat: All fresh and saltmarsh habitats.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrival dates consistently in first week of April during past decade. Max<sup>m</sup> count 20 on Apr. 8/77 on the John Lusby marsh.

> <u>Summer</u> - occasional individuals or small groups through the period e.g. 3 on July 1/78 (J.L.M.), 2 on July 6/80 (A.P.B.S.).

Fall - numbers increase in late July and through August, then drop off in September and October. High counts include 24 at J.L.M. on Aug. 12/75 and 40 at A.P.B.S. (drained impoundment) on Aug. 13/78. Latest records are Dec. 27/80 and Dec. 23/78, both at A.P.B.S.

<u>Note</u>: The species is most frequent on the John Lusby salt marshes, and only occurs in numbers in the sanctuary in response to draining of an impoundment.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - late Nov.

8. GREEN HERON (Butorides striatus)

Status: Rare spring visitant.

- Occurrence: Three records 1 spent the last half of May/74 in various ponds around the sanctuary and was seen by many members of the Chignecto Naturalists' Club. Con Desplanque saw one on several occasions at A.P.B.S. in early May/75. A more recent record is of a single bird at an unspecified location in the sanctuary on May 5/78, observed by employees of Ducks Unlimited.
- 9. LITTLE BLUE HERON (Florida caerulea)

Status: Very rare visitant.

- Occurrence: An adult in breeding plumage observed by many members of the Chignecto Naturalists' Club at A.P.B.S. and J.L.M., Apr. 25-29/73, is the only record for the wildlife area.
- 10. CATTLE EGRET (Bubulcus ibis)

Status: Very rare visitant.

- Occurrence: One record an adult in breeding plumage seen in impoundment #1 and in an adjacent pasture on Apr. 23/77 (C. Desplanque, R. Lamberton, B. Mactavish, S. Tingley).
- 11. GREAT EGRET (Casmerodius albus)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: Two records - an adult in breeding plumage first observed by M. Bateman on J.L.M. on Apr. 30/74 and subsequently there and at A.P.B.S. by members of the Chignecto

Naturalists' Club until at least May 12 provided the first record. In 1980, C. Desplanque saw one in the Burgess impoundment on July 8.

12. SNOWY EGRET (Egretta thula)

Status: Very rare visitant.

- Occurrence: Two records a breeding plumaged adult in impoundment #1 on May 1/79 seen by many birders, and one on the J.L.M. from June 30 to at least July 2/78 observed by R. Hounsell and S. Tingley.
- 13. BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nycticorax nycticorax)

Status: Rare to uncommon summer visitant.

Habitat: Salt marsh and impoundments of J.L.M., fresh marshes.

- Occurrence: Has occurred in at least 7 of the last 10 years, records ranging from May 31 to Sept. 10. Most observations are of 1-3 birds, though as many as 12 (3 adults) were noted through August and early September/74 and up to 6 were seen during the summers of '75 and '76.
  - <u>Note</u>: Most frequently observed at the Burgess impoundment. The origin and status of these night herons is uncertain, as the nearest known colonies of this species are some 200 miles distant. While many observers did not note the age of the birds observed, most late summer observations appear to have been immatures, while most June and early July records were adults, with a few

sub-adult plumaged birds present. Perhaps a small undiscovered colony exists somewhere in the border region.

Normal Season of Occurrence: June-Sept.

14. LEAST BITTERN (Ixobrychus exilis)

Status: Very rare to rare summer visitant.

- Occurrence: A single bird has been seen ('79) or heard ('80) in each of the last 2 summers in impoundment #1. First noted by E. Mills on July 30/79, the bird was later seen by duck banders in the same area. In 1980, C. Desplanque heard the distinctive calls of this species on July 5.
  - <u>Note</u>: The sanctuary provides ideal habitat for this species, and breeding can perhaps be looked for in the future.
- 15. AMERICAN BITTERN (Botaurus lentiginosus) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Fresh marshes and ponds, possibly salt marsh.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> first appears in late April, earliest Apr. 20/80, Apr. 21/76, Apr. 28/74. Almost all observations of single birds, except 4 on May 25/80.
  - <u>Summer</u> little information available, though a few pairs undoubtedly nest annually. Five were noted on June 22/78. A nest discovered by W. McNutt on July 3/67 contained 4 young.
  - <u>Fall</u> single birds recorded frequently. Max<sup>m</sup> 3 on Oct. 24/73. Latest Oct. 30/77.

<u>Note</u>: The only records available for J.L.M. where this species may nest rarely are of single birds on May 28 and Sept. 18/79 in the Burgess impoundment.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - late Oct.

16. GLOSSY IBIS (Plegadis falcinellus)

Status: Very rare spring visitant.

- Occurrence: Two records A. Smith and K. McAloney saw 2 in impoundment #2 on May 24/71. In 1976, in the same impoundment, as many as 8 were seen by numerous birders between April 29 and May 15.
- 17. WHITE IBIS (Eudocimus albus)

Status: Very rare visitant.

- Occurrence: Con Desplanque reported seeing an immature of this species in impoundment #2 on June 9/76. Among other field marks noted was the distinctive decurved red bill. This provided one of only 3 or 4 records of this species in the Maritimes.
- 18. CANADA GOOSE (Branta canadensis) b
  - Status: Very common spring and common fall transient, rare summer resident.
  - Habitat: Salt marsh, adjacent fields and pastures, impoundments on salt marsh, occasionally ponds and marshes at A.P.B.S.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrivals usually appear on the salt marsh around the second week of March, earliest March 6/74 (100), Mar. 6/79 (flock), Mar. 7/76 (120); latest first arrival Mar. 19/72 (400), Mar. 17/80 (100+). Depending on the nature of the spring and feeding conditions on the marsh, spring maxima vary between 2000 and 5000, usually in late March or early April (e.g. 3000 on Mar. 30/68, 4430 on Mar. 31/70, 2305 on Apr. 6/72, 2500+ on Apr. 1/77). Only a few remain by early May, 40 on May 14/77 being unusually late. Summer - In 1979, a pair of geese remained in the Burgess

impoundment throughout the summer, but no nest or young were seen. In 1980, a nest was built on an artificial island in the Burgess impoundment in early May, and 6 newly hatched young were seen on June 6, later moving over to the Russel Impoundment where they remained through most of the summer.

Fall- Little informationavailable, but probably occurs<br/>commonly on the salt marshfromlateSeptember to December. A late record is of<br/>l on the salt marsh on Dec. 23/69 which may have<br/>been injured, but flocks are occasionally seen<br/>even later than this flying over enroute to the<br/>Bay of Fundy from the Northumberland Strait.

<u>Note</u>: Occasionally severe late spring weather causes hardships for the geese. Such was the case in 1972, when several heavy snowfalls in April blanketed the salt marsh and left many geese hungry and weakened. Approximately 4000 pounds of oats were hauled onto the marsh by snowmobile and as a result mortality was kept very low, probably less than 50.

On Mar. 23/79 an albinistic Canada Goose was seen on the salt marsh which was mostly white except for normal head and neck markings.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid March - Dec.

19. BRANT (Branta bernicla)

Status: Rare spring and very rare fall transient.

- Habitat: Most records are of birds in Cumberland Basin or flying over, but occasionally small groups are seen on the John Lusby salt marsh.
- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> at least 5 records in last decade, earliest on Apr. 7/72 (17), and the same date in 1973 (19). Largest number seen was 85+ flying up Cumberland Basin on Apr. 20/76. Latest, May 29/69 (1).

Fall - only 2 records, both of birds flying over A.P.B.S., on Nov. 3/56 (19), and Nov. 19/77 (15). 20. SNOW GOOSE (Anser caerulescens)

Status: Rare spring and very rare fall transient.

Habitat: Salt marsh, adjacent fields, A.P.B.S. (1 record).

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - has occurred in at least 6 of the last 10 years. The earliest on file is Mar. 13/77 (1), followed by several occurrences in the last week of March. Largest number recorded was 11 present from Apr. 15-19/74, 7 on Apr. 30/78 (latest record).

Fall - a single occurrence, 1 in A.P.B.S. on Oct. 14/78.

<u>Note</u>: Seems to be the most regular location for this species in Nova Scotia. All records are of white phase birds except 1 dark phase (formerly known as Blue Goose) with 2 white birds on Mar. 22/72, and single "intermediate" or "cross" phase birds on Mar. 25/73 and Mar. 13/77.

21. MALLARD (Anas platyrhynchos) b

Status: Fairly common transient and uncommon summer resident.
Habitat: Fresh and salt marsh (Most regular at A.P.B.S.).
Occurrence: Spring - small numbers occur annually, usually associated
with Black Ducks. Earliest record on file is
March 19/81 (1°). Max<sup>m</sup> number seen is usually
around 5, occasionally more (e.g. 10 on May 23/76).
Summer - only 2 nesting records available - a brood of 6
on July 16/72, and an undetailed brood in 1978.
Fall - occurs annually in small numbers. Latest record
is Dec. 8/79 (1).

- Note: Over 130 young were liberated at A.P.B.S. by local sportsmen in 1954-55, probably the source of most of the present population (Boyer, 1959). This species hybridizes extensively with Black Duck, and hybrids are frequently seen in flocks of Black Ducks. Boyer reported 3 well-grown hybrid young on July 1, 1955, and hybrids usually comprise upwards of 2-3% of the total Black Ducks banded annually at Chignecto N.W.A. Though records are lacking, this species may occur occasionally in winter on the salt marsh creeks.
- 22. BLACK DUCK (Anas rubripes) B

Status: Very common transient and common summer resident.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats (feeding and nesting) and adjacent upland areas (nesting).

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> usually first noted early in March on the salt marsh though small numbers probably winter locally, at least occasionally. The spring peak occurs in April, with usually between 400 and 600 birds on the marshes through much of the month. Numbers drop late in the month as the birds disperse to their nesting areas.
  - <u>Summer</u> This species is the most common breeding waterfowl at Chignecto N.W.A. with an estimated 25-35 pairs nesting annually. Egg dates for 6 nests at A.P.B.S. range from May 10 (8 eggs) to June 3. The first

broods usually appear around May 20, and the peak of hatching occurs in early June.

Fall - Large flocks begin to form again by late July and early August. This species is routinely the most commonly trapped duck during annual banding operations from late July to late September, a cumulative total of over 5,000 having been banded in 1965-80. Late records include 10 at A.P.B.S. on Dec. 8/79 and 100 on the J.L.M. on Dec. 13/75. Small numbers probably occur much later than this, and a few may occasionally over-winter on the salt marsh.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early March - Dec.

23. GADWALL (Anas strepera) b

Status: Fairly common transient and uncommon summer resident. Habitat: Fresh and salt marshes.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - regular in small numbers since '74. Earliest March 30/81 (pair), Apr. 1/77 (pair), Apr. 5/80 (4), Apr. 16/79 (3). Spring maxima usually 4-8 (e.g. 5 in late Apr./78, 7 on Apr. 24/77, 8 on May 25/80).

> <u>Summer</u> - One or two pairs have nested annually since 1978 and possibly 1977 (3 pairs at J.L.M. through June/77). First definite evidence of breeding was on Sept. 7/78 when 3 non-flying young were captured and banded at A.P.B.S.. A female with 8 young was observed at A.P.B.S. in June/80.

- <u>Fall</u> small numbers occur into November. An exceptionally large concentration occurred in late Oct. - early Nov./79, peaking at 28 on Nov. 3. A late record is one reported by Boyer on Nov. 29/49.
- <u>Note</u>: The recent increase in occurrence of this species in the Maritimes is probably in response to the creation of many impounded marshes in recent years. The nesting records at A.P.B.S. are unique in Nova Scotia.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - early Nov.

24. PINTAIL (Anas acuta) B

Status: Very common transient and fairly common summer resident.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitat.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrivals appear early, often by mid-March. Earliest Mar. 7/74 (4), Mar. 12/79 (7), Mar. 12/81 (5). Numbers peak by mid-April (e.g. 300 on Apr. 13/78, 225+ on Apr. 20/76), then drop off by early May.

> <u>Summer</u> - a few pairs (5-10) nest annually at Chignecto N.W.A., with broods first appearing in early June.

Fall - numbers increase through late summer and fall, usually peaking in October (e.g. 200 on Oct. 1/76, 200 on Oct. 13/73, 100 on Oct. 29/78). Late observations include 3 on Nov. 22/75 and 10 on Nov. 23/74. Occurs at least occasionally on the salt marsh in December.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid March - late Nov.

25A. (AMERICAN) GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Anas crecca carolinensis) B

Status: Very common transient and fairly common summer resident. Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> first birds usually appear by the end of March, occasionally earlier - Mar. 10/79 (7), Mar. 26/73 (3), Mar. 27/76 (5). Numbers increase rapidly in early April and remain high throughout most of the month. Peak counts include 500 on Apr. 23/78, 400 on Apr. 19-26/71, 300 on Apr. 20/76, 280 on Apr. 18/75. Numbers drop off sharply in early May.
  - <u>Summer</u> a few pairs nest annually. Egg dates for two nests at A.P.B.S. are May 18 (8 eggs) and June 25.
  - Fall numbers build up through late summer and fall and appear to peak in October. Some high counts are 350 on Oct. 27/73, 200 on 28/78, 200+ on Oct. 4/75, 200 on Oct. 10/76. Late dates include 2 on Nov. 19/77, 10 on Nov. 14/76 and an exceptionally late bird on Dec. 6/75.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March - mid Nov.

25B. (EURASIAN) GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Anas crecca crecca)

Status: Uncommon spring and very rare summer visitant.

- Habitat: Most commonly seen in the impoundments and ponds of John Lusby salt marsh; also occurs in A.P.B.S.
- Occurrence: This, the Eurasian subspecies of the Green-winged Teal, has occurred annually since 1974; almost all records are

for the month of April, but has occurred as early as Mar. 25 in 1979. An exceptional record was of 1 at the Burgess imp. on July 1/77. Most records of single birds, but  $2\sigma$ 's were noted together in 1974, 77 and 80. An old record from Boyer is of a  $\sigma$  at A.P.B.S. on Apr. 25/55. Chignecto N.W.A. is certainly the most regular location for this bird in the Maritimes.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March - Apr. (July 1)

- 26. BLUE-WINGED TEAL (Anas discors) B
  - Status: Common spring transient and summer resident, very common fall transient.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> first arrivals usually appear during first week of April, occasionally earlier (e.g. 3 on Mar. 25/ 78, 1 on Mar. 31/76). Spring maxima rarely exceed 75, the peak usually coming in late April or early May.
  - <u>Summer</u> probably somewhere in the order of 20 pairs nest annually at Chignecto N.W.A. Egg dates for 12 nests range from May 25 (12 eggs) to July 17. First broods usually appear around mid-June.
  - Fall Flocks begin to concentrate by early August (e.g. 155 at J.L.M. on Aug. 9/78) and usually peak in late September (e.g. 300 on Sept. 25/76). This species is the second most commonly banded duck, with over

3000 being tagged in the last 16 years. Numbers drop rapidly after the first cold nights in October and only a few remain by late in the month. Late records include 10 on Oct. 31/76 and 2 on Nov. 6/77.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - late Oct.

27. EUROPEAN WIGEON (Anas penelope)

Status: Rare spring and summer visitant.

- Habitat: Most records are from the John Lusby marsh impoundments, but has also occurred at A.P.B.S. and adjacent flooded fields.
- Occurrence: One or two males have occurred in spring and/or early summer of 5 of the last 6 years. Records spanned the period Apr. 23-July 7 in 1975, Apr. 16-June 13 in 1976, Apr. 16-July 3 in 1977, May 7 (only) in 1978, and May 8-30 in 1980. No definite fall occurrences.
  - <u>Note</u>: Chignecto N.W.A. is the most regular location for this species in eastern Canada.
- 28. AMERICAN WIGEON (Anas americana) b
  - Status: Common spring transient and summer resident/visitant, very common fall transient.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - often first appears during last 10 days of March, earliest Mar. 19/74 (1), Mar. 24/75 (3), Mar. 30/53 (3). Spring maxima rarely exceed 40 birds, during April.

- Summer an uncommon breeding species, but post-breeding
  - flocks of adult males appear early in the summer and remain through the season. Usually 1-3 broods are reported annually, and nests with 2 eggs and 5 eggs were found on June 3/66 and June 28/67, respectively. Typical summer counts of adult d's include 42 on July 7/75 and 51 on July 12/78, both at the John Lusby marsh.
- Fall numbers increase in late summer and early fall then drop off in late October. High counts include 275 adult d's on Aug. 27/78, 300 in mid-Oct./75, 400 on Oct. 5/74, etc. Few records after Nov. 1, latest being 4 on Nov. 11/76 and 3 on Nov. 16/75.
- <u>Note</u>: The summer and fall concentrations at Chignecto N.W.A. appear to be the largest in Nova Scotia, and perhaps the Maritime Provinces.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - late Oct.

29. NORTHERN SHOVELER (Anas clypeata) b

Status: Fairly common transient and uncommon summer resident. Habitat: All fresh and salt water habitats.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrivals usually appear in mid to late April. Earliest records are Apr. 11/80 (6), Apr. 16/76 (5), Apr. 16/79 (2). Spring maxima range from 10-20 in past decade. High counts include 20 on May 8/78, 16 on May 4/77, 14 on May 10/80. Numbers drop by late May.

- <u>Summer</u> definite nesting records are few, but 1-2 pairs have probably nested annually in recent years. Broods were noted in June of '77 and '78.
- Fall appears to be slightly less common than in spring, or at least is less conspicuous. A high count of 18 on Sept. 28/78 is unusual, counts of 4-10 being more typical at this season. Late records include 1 on Nov. 16/75 and 4 on Nov. 21/73.
- <u>Note</u>: As with many other species, this duck is more regular at Chignecto N.W.A. than at any other Nova Scotia location.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - Oct.

- 30. WOOD DUCK (Aix sponsa) b
  - Status: Fairly common spring transient and summer resident/visitant, uncommon fall transient.
  - Habitat: All fresh water habitats at A.P.B.S.; rarely J.L.M. impoundments.
  - Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> Occasionally apears in April (e.g. 1 on Apr. 1/77) but usually first appears in May. Almost all spring records involve only 1-3 birds.
    - <u>Summer</u> small numbers of adult males usually present through summer, occasionally as many as 15 or 20 in August. Few nesting records, though single broods were seen in at least 2 of the last 5 years. A nest containing 13 eggs was found on June 8/67 in a nest box in the sanctuary.

Fall - very few records after September. A late record

was of 3 at A.P.B.S. on Nov. 12/77.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May-Oct.

31. REDHEAD (Aythya americana) b

Status: Rare to uncommon transient and summer resident. Habitat: Fresh water marshes.

- Occurrence: This species was first noted in May/77 (pair), and 2-5 birds have appeared annually since then. The only definite evidence of breeding was in 1977, when Con Desplanque noted a brood of 10 in Imp. #1 on July 1-2. Up to 3 pairs were noted through spring 1978, and a single pair was seen in the springs of '79 and '80. The only fall records were in 1977, when 4 birds were still present as late as Oct. 23.
  - <u>Note</u>: The nesting in 1977 was a first record for Nova Scotia, and the first Maritime record in 33 years.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May-Oct.

32. RING-NECKED DUCK (Aythya collaris) B

Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: All fresh water habitats; uncommon in J.L.M. impoundments (migration only).

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - arrives soon after the first appearance of open water at A.P.B.S. Earliest records include 6 on Mar. 25/79, 1 on Mar. 27/73, and 5 on Mar. 28/81. Spring maxima in late April-early May generally in range of 40-60 birds, occasionally higher (e.g. 132 on May 4/78), dropping slightly later in month.

- <u>Summer</u> a common breeding waterfowl at A.P.B.S., perhaps second in abundance only to Black Duck, with 15-20 pairs nesting annually. Egg dates for 5 nests May 25 (8 eggs) to June 23. First broods probably appear in mid June.
- Fall numbers increase through late summer and fall to peak sometime in October (e.g. 130+ on Oct. 5/74, 300(?) on Oct. 10/76, 200 on Oct. 22/77). Numbers drop rapidly in late October, and few remain by mid-November. Late records include 25 on Nov. 17/79, 10 on Nov. 26/77, and 1 on Dec. 1/73.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - mid Nov.

33. GREATER SCAUP (Aythya marila)

Status: Rare transient and very rare summer visitant.

Habitat: Fresh water ponds and marshes, J.L.M. impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - at least 4 records of 1-10 birds, ranging from

Apr. 24 to May 10.

- <u>Summer</u> an adult male noted by S. Tingley on July 24/78 was most unseasonal.
- <u>Fall</u> at least 2 old records, 1 on Oct. 30/47 and 8 on Oct. 14/48.
- <u>Note</u>: Confusion exists between this species and Lesser Scaup which has become the most regular in recent years at least.

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34. LESSER SCAUP (Aythya affinis)

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient.

Habitat: Fresh water marshes, J.L.M. impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - appears in April, earliest Apr. 1/73, Apr. 10/77, Apr. 12/80. Spring maxima in past decade have consistently ranged from 4 to 8, usually peaking in late April or early May. Latest spring record is of 5 on May 22/78.

> Fall - perhaps slightly less common, or less conspicuous, in fall. Earliest Oct. 16/75, latest Nov. 17/79, highest fall count 6 on Oct. 30/77.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Apr. - May, mid Oct. - mid Nov.

35. COMMON GOLDENEYE (Bucephala clangula)

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient.

Habitat: Freshwater ponds and marshes, rarely J.L.M. impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - regular in small numbers annually. Earliest Mar. 20/72, Mar. 31/80. Spring maxima range from 5 to 30, usually peaking in late April. Highest counts were 30 on May 4/72 at A.P.B.S., and 21 on Apr. 13/74 at J.L.M. Birds move on in early May, latest record is of 1 on May 16/78.

> Fall - slightly less common at this season; earliest Oct. 23/77. Largest numbers usually occur just before freeze up in November; e.g. 7 on Nov. 10/73, 5 on Nov. 7/76. The only December records are of single birds on Dec. 1/73 and Dec. 6/75. May

possibly occur rarely in winter in open runs or flooded tidal creeks.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March - mid May, late Oct. - Dec.

36. BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (Bucephala islandica)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: An adult male in impoundment #2 on Apr. 14/80 is the only record of this uncommon duck for Chignecto N.W.A.(C.Desplanque)

37. BUFFLEHEAD (Bucephala albeola)

Status: Rare spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Freshwater ponds and marshes; rarely J.L.M. impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - several records of 1-2 birds ranging from April

10 to May 8. Exceptional were 9 on May 6/49.

Fall - much more regular than in spring. Earliest records Oct. 13/65 (2), Oct. 15/79 (3). All records of 1-6 birds, most common in November just before freeze-up. An unusually late record was of 4 at A.P.B.S. on Dec. 8/79.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (Apr. 10 - May 8) mid Oct. - Nov.

38. OLDSQUAW (Clangula hyemalis)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - at least 6 records of 1-2 birds, all falling within the period April 14-23 except 1 on May 3/71. Over 100 Oldsquaw were resting in Cumberland Basin just off J.L.M. on Apr. 20/76, preparing for their transisthmus flight to Northumberland Strait.

Fall - Four records on file - 1 on Oct. 19/77, 1 on

Oct. 25/74, 2 on Nov. 11/73, and 2 on Nov. 23/74.

Note: Has occurred in impoundments at both A.P.B.S. and J.L.M.

39. COMMON EIDER (Somateria mollissima)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: An adult male visited the Russell impoundment on several occasions in mid-April/74, and another ♂ flying low over A.P.B.S. impoundments on July 6/80 provide the only records of this marine duck for Chignecto N.W.A. Probably passes over regularly in trans-isthmus migration, especially in spring.

40. WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (Melanitta deglandi)

Status: Rare transient and summer visitant.

Occurrence: At least 5 records, single birds on May 6/74, June 8/55 and July 1/74 (ad. d), and 4 together on Apr. 25/73. In 1976, 50+ were resting in Cumberland Basin just off the national wildlife area on Apr. 10. The only fall observation is of 1 at A.P.B.S. from Oct. 10-31/76.

41. SURF SCOTER (Melanitta perspicilatta)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Several mid-late April records: 1 on Apr. 26/71, 2 on Apr. 25/73, 4 on Apr. 25/74, 1 on Apr. 17/76, and 4 on Apr. 28/80. Two fall records are 1 on Oct. 8/73, and

5 on Oct. 1/76. Several rafts totalling over <u>2000</u> were resting and courting in Cumberland Basin just off the national wildlife area on Apr. 20/76. Very unseasonal was 1 at A.P.B.S. on June 5/77.

42. BLACK SCOTER (Melanitta nigra)

Status: Rare transient.

- Occurrence: Has occurred in 7 of the last 10 years, most records of 1-3 birds in April. Earliest Mar. 31/76. Latest records Apr. 30/73 and '74. Over 400 were resting in Cumberland Basin just off the wildlife area on Apr. 20/76. Two old fall records only, single birds on Oct. 30/49 and Nov. 10/65.
  - <u>Note</u>: All scoter records at Chignecto N.W.A. have come from Layton's Lake and impoundments at A.P.B.S.
- 43. RUDDY DUCK (Oxyura jamaicensis) b
  - Status: Rare spring transient and summer resident, uncommon to fairly common fall transient.

Habitat: Fresh water ponds and marshes.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first noted in spring in 1977, when a ° was seen on May 7.

> <u>Summer</u> - the first summer observation occurred in 1978, when an adult  $\sigma$  and 8 imm. plumage birds were noted in late August, suggesting nesting had occurred. The first definite proof of breeding came in 1979 when a pair of adults with 4 downy young were seen in impoundment #1 on July 18. In 1980, a pair of

adults with 4 downy young were seen in exactly the same location in impoundment #1 on July 6. Two other apparently unattached adult males were in the same vicinity on that date.

- Fall this species has been a regular fall transient in samll numbers annually at A.P.B.S. over the past decade and probably prior to that. Older records include "many" in the fall of '49, 9 on Oct. 17/57, and 2 on Oct. 24/60. Fall migrants usually first appear in mid-October and peak later in the month or in early November. Up to 25 were present in early Nov./69, 17 were noted on Oct. 31/74 and 6 were seen on Oct. 23/76. Late records include 2 on Nov. 20/71 and 2 on Nov. 21/73.
- <u>Note</u>: The A.P.B.S. breeding records are unprecedented in Atlantic Canada.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May - mid Nov.

44. HOODED MERGANSER (Lophodytes cucullatus)

Status: Rare transient.

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- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> several records of 1-2 birds in at least 5 of the last 10 years, all records falling between Apr. 7-25.
  - Fall several records of single birds except in 1979, when up to 8 were observed in mid Nov. All records fall within period Oct. 23 - Nov. 18.
  - <u>Note</u>: While summer observations are lacking, this species may be found to nest occasionally at A.P.B.S.

45. COMMON MERGANSER (Mergus merganser)

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient.

Habitat: Layton's Lake, fresh and salt marshes, impoundments at J.L.M.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - present annually in small numbers, arriving shortly after the first appearance of open water. Earliest records are Mar. 19/81 (3), Mar. 26/73 (4), Mar. 31/78 (3) and Mar. 31/80 (4). Spring maxima usually less than 10, occasionally more (e.g. 18 on Apr. 14/80, 15 on May 2/49). The latter observation provides the latest spring record.

> Fall - probably occurs annually in small numbers in Layton's Lake. Earliest records are Oct. 20/73 (3) and Oct. 25/80 (5). Present until freeze-up in November or early December. May occur occasionally in open leads and on flooded salt marsh creeks in winter.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March - Apr., late Oct. - Dec.

46. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (Mergus servator)

Status: Common to very common spring transient, rare fall transient.

Habitat: J.L.M. impoundments, occasionally ponds and marshes of A.P.B.S.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - most commonly seen in Burgess and Russell impoundments, or on flooded salt marsh ponds, first appearing in late March or early April. Counts of 10 to 30 are typical through April; occasionally much more common as in 1973 when numbers peaked at 150 on May 10, and in 1978 when 100 were were estimated on May8. Latest records May 31/73 (10; non-breeding birds?), May 17/72 (2).

<u>Fall</u> - probably occurs more commonly than the single record would indicate. Boyer reported 20 at A.P.B.S. on Nov. 16/49.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - late May (Nov.)

47. GOSHAWK (Accipiter gentilis)

Status: Rare to uncommon transient and winter visitant. Occurrence: Several records, mostly for the months of April and November, probably of migrants. At least one winter record (Feb. 29/76). On Apr. 28/79, S. Tingley flushed an adult  $\sigma$  from the forest floor near the Glen where he found the remains of at least 6 Black Ducks, suggesting the hawk had been resident for some time.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Nov. - Apr.

48. COOPER'S HAWK (Accipiter cooperi)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One Record. An immature bird carefully identified, sitting and in flight at 20 yards, at A.P.B.S. on Oct. 8, 1961 (A. J. Erskine). 49. SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (Accipiter striatus)

Status: Uncommon transient.

Occurrence: Undoubtedly occurs annually in migration, however very few observations available. One was seen at A.P.B.S. on Apr. 7/76 and another was there on Apr. 20 of that year. Fall records include 1 on Sept. 7/75 at the John Lusby marsh, and 1 at A.P.B.S. on Oct. 23/76.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Apr., Sept. - Oct.

50. RED-TAILED HAWK (Buteo jamaicensis)

Status: Uncommon transient.

Occurrence: As with previous species, undoubtedly occurs annually in migration, though records are few. Single birds were seen Apr. 2/72, Mar. 24 and Apr. 21/73, Nov. 3/74, Apr. 4/80 and Dec. 23/80.

Normal Season of Occurrence: March - Apr., Nov. - Dec.

51. BROAD-WINGED HAWK (Buteo platypterus)

Status: Rare to uncommon transient.

Occurrence: This forest Buteo has been recorded twice in spring and once in fall at A.P.B.S. as follows: 1 imm. on Aug. 28/73, 2 adults on Apr. 23/77 and 1 subadult on May 22/80. Should occur more regularly than these few records would indicate.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - May, Aug.

52. ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (Buteo lagopus)

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Open marshland (esp. J.L.M) and fields.

Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> - little information available, but probably arrives normally early November.

<u>Winter</u> - probably present annually in variable numbers, though few records available.

<u>Spring</u> - numbers probably increase slightly in March and early April. Five were noted on Apr. 6/74 at J.L.M. Latest record Apr. 21/73, though lingering birds could occur somewhat later.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Nov. - mid Apr.

53. BALD EAGLE (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Four records available - A. Smith and J. VanZoost saw one on the J.L.M. two occasions in late Dec./69, several observers reported an adult at A.P.B.S. and J.L.M. in Nov./74, C. Desplanque reported an adult at A.P.B.S. on May 9/76, and a Nova Scotia Bird Society party reported a sub-adult at A.P.B.S. on Oct, 21/77.

54. MARSH HAWK (Circus cyaneus) b

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Open marshland and fields.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrivals usually appear before mid April. Earliest Mar, 27/74, Apr. 4/78, Apr. 7/76. Most spring sightings of 1-2 birds, though 4 were noted on May 1/79.

- <u>Summer</u> little information available, though probably a regular breeder in very small numbers at J.L.M. and possibly 1 or 2 pairs at A.P.B.S. also. Numbers build up in late summer as young leave the nest, and multiple sightings become common. Seven were noted on Aug. 28/73 and up to 15 were observed throughout the wildlife area in late August/78.
- Fall numbers drop gradually through the fall and few are seen after late October (latest Nov. 11/76), though stragglers undoubtedly occur occasionally well into Dec. or Jan.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - early Nov.

55. OSPREY (Pandion haliaetus)

Status: Uncommon transient, and summer visitant.

Habitat: Layton's Lake and freshwater marshes occasionally J.L.M.

Occurrence: Spring - a few seen annually. Earliest Apr. 19/80,

Apr. 22/79, Apr. 23/77. All observations of 1 or 2 birds, and almost all records fall between Apr. 20 and May 5.

<u>Summer</u> - In 1978, a nesting attempt on a hydro pole at A.P.B.S. failed. However, nesting undoubtedly occurs nearby, as adults carrying fish are noted at A.P.B.S. and J.L.M. each summer. 36.

Fall - Few records, but no doubt occurs infrequently

in fall migration in late August and September.

Up to 5 were noted on A.P.B.S. from Aug. 19-26/72.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - mid Sept.

56. GYRFALCON (Falco rusticolus)

Status: Very rare to rare transient.

- Occurrence: Three records. A gray bird was noted by R. Burrows and C. Desplanque at A.P.B.S. in mid November/75. Many observers saw a beautiful white phase bird present on the John Lusby salt marsh from Mar. 24 well into May, '79. In 1980, S. Tingley saw a white phase Gyr, possibly the same one as in 1979 at A.P.B.S. on Mar. 29.
  - <u>Note</u>: Selected prey of Gryfalcons at Chignecto N.W.A. included Black Duck and American Coot. On at least one occasion, a Gryfalcon was observed harassing Canada Geese.
- 57. PEREGRINE FALCON (Falco peregrinus)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: Three records. Boyer reported one observed at A.P.B.S. in October and November, 1948. Con Desplanque reported one at A.P.B.S. on Apr. 10/76, and Gay Hansen saw one at A.P.B.S. in May 1980.

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58. MERLIN (Falco columbarius)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Only 2 records available, but undoubtedly occurs more regularly than this would indicate. Both records are from J.L.M. - 1 perched in dead trees at the edge of the marsh on Feb. 20/75 (S. Tingley), and 1 flying over the marsh on Apr. 28/79 (F. Spalding).

59. AMERICAN KESTREL (Falco sparverius) b

Status: Fairly common spring transient, uncommon summer resident and fall transient, very rare winter visitant.

Habitat: Semi-open wooded areas, fields, marsh.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> little information available. Earliest record is Mar. 25/79, an adult <sup>d</sup> at J.L.M. A high count at A.P.B.S. was 5 on April 24/76.
  - <u>Summer</u> again little information available, but probably nests occasionally somewhere within A.P.B.S. In 1976 a Wood Duck box was used by Kestrels and contained 5 eggs on June 3.
  - <u>Fall</u> records lacking, but probably occurs regularly in September and October.
  - <u>Winter</u> an unusual record was of a male perched on wires near A.P.B.S. on Jan. 7/79.
- 60. SPRUCE GROUSE (Canachites canadensis)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: One record only. Con Desplanque noted 2 at A.P.B.S. on Oct. 28/73.

61. RUFFED GROUSE (Bonasa umbellus) B

Status: Uncommon to common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forests

Occurrence: This species' abundance fluctuates somewhat from one year to the next, but one or more are usually spotted on most extended visits to the sanctuary. Drumming is usually first noted in late April. Egg dates for 5 nests range from May 2 (3 eggs) to June 7. Largest numbers are usually seen in the fall (e.g. 10 on Oct. 14/73, 6 on Dec. 13/78).

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round

62. RING-NECKED PHEASANT (Phasianus colchicus) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common permanent resident.

Habitat: Fields, marshes, and adjacent treed area.

Occurrence: As with most upland game birds, numbers fluctuate somewhat from one year to the next. This species is perhaps most commonly noted in spring when males are crowing. No nesting records available for Chignecto N.W.A., but several pairs undoubtedly nest here annually. Most commonly noted in the upland adjacent to J.L.M.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round

63. GRAY PARTRIDGE (Perdix perdix)

Status: Extirpated.

Habitat: Dyked marshland?

Occurrence: Formerly a rare resident in the area (Boyer, 1972), apparently

introduced in 1947, and last recorded near Amherst Point in 1962, though more recent records exist for nearby areas such as Nappan.

64. VIRGINIA RAIL (Rallus limicola) b

Status: Uncommon summer resident.

Habitat: Fresh marshes.

Occurrence: Little information is available on this elusive group. Earliest recorded date for this species is May 23/76, but probably arrives earlier. No nesting records, but undoubtedly does so as it is recorded through the summer annually. No autumn: records available, but probably occurs regularly into October.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May - Oct.

65. SORA (Porzana carolina) B

Status: Fairly common summer resident.

Habitat: Fresh marshes.

Occurrence: Recorded regular in small numbers annually. Earliest observations are Apr. 18/73 (2), Apr. 23/77 (1). Apparently this species was especially common at A.P.B.S. in 1974, when 25+ were counted on July 17, however, counts of 1-5 are more typical. Egg dates for 5 nests range from June 1 (12 eggs) to June 26. Groups of young are often encountered skulking about in late summer. No fall data available but probably departs in September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - Sept.

66. YELLOW RAIL (Coturnicops noveboracensis)

Status: Very rare summer visitant.

Occurrence: One record only. Boyer reported one at Amherst Point on July 1/51, at which time this species was a common summer resident at Midgic.

67. COMMON GALLINULE (Gallinula chloropus) b

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Freshwater marshes,

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - regular in recent years, usually first recorded sometime in May. Earliest records are Apr. 24/77 (1), May 4/74 (2), May 21/79 (2). All spring records involve only 1 or 2 birds.

> <u>Summer</u> - one or two pairs of this species have nested annually since 1974. Young have been recorded as early as July 14/74, July 16/77.

- Fall this species is rarely recorded after September but occasional stragglers are seen as late as Nov. 3/74, and Oct. 22/72.
- <u>Note</u>: These nesting records at A.P.B.S. provide the first evidence of breeding in Nova Scotia, and indeed is one of only 2 definite nesting locations in the Maritimes. Again, this species seems to have increased with the creation of impounded marshes.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May - Sept.

68. AMERICAN COOT (Fulica americana) b

Status: Fairly common spring transient and summer resident, common to very common fall transient.

Habitat: Fresh marshes, occasionally J.L.M. impoundments.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> first arrivals usually appear soon after the open water becomes available at A.P.B.S. Earliest dates are Apr. 9/78 (2), Apr. 10/80 (1), Apr. 14/79 (2). These would appear to be locally breeding birds rather than migrants, as numbers remain relatively constant through the spring, usually 2-4 pairs.
  - <u>Summer</u> has bred regularly in recent years, broods usually first noticed in early July.
  - Fall Numbers in fall are variable, but generally are much higher than at other seasons due to the influx of migrants. Whether these migrants are birds produced on other local marshes, or in fact represent a splinter migration from their breeding stronghold in central and western Canada is not known. Fall maxima for 1974-79 were: 31 on Oct. 31/74, 141 on Nov. 16/75, 100 in late Oct./76, and 150 in Oct./77, 35 in Sept./78, and 45+ on Oct. 28/79. A few coots usually remain on the marshes and ponds of A.P.B.S. until the last bit of open water is frozen. Late dates include Dec. 13/75 (1), Dec. 5/77 (1), and Dec. 4/76 (1).

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- <u>Note</u>: This species has substantially increased in numbers locally both in migration and in breeding season, probably due to an increase in suitable nesting habitat with the creation of many hundreds of acres of impounded marshes. Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - late Nov.
- 69. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER (Charadrius semipalmatus)
  - Status: Very common fall transient when suitable habitat exists (drained or lowered impoundments); otherwise fairly common fall transient.

Habitat: Muddy flats in drained or lowered impoundments, salt marsh.

Occurrence: All available records for Chignecto NWA range from July 6 to Sept. 8, though no doubt occurs somewhat later. Largest concentrations have occurred in years when impoundments have been drained or lowered substantially - 400 on Aug. 7/78 at A.P.B.S., 100 on Sept. 8/75 at A.P.B.S., and 75+ on Aug. 13/78 in the Russell impoundment. Also occurs in lesser numbers on the salt marsh.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early July - Sept.

- 70. KILLDEER (Charadrius vociferus) b
  - Status: Fairly common to common transient and uncommon summer resident.

Habitat: Fields and drier marshes.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually appears before mid April. Earliest Mar. 30/77 (2), Apr. 3/76 (2), Apr. 10/74. Most spring observations are of 2-5 birds.

- Summer a few pairs probably nest annually at A.P.B.S. and perhaps the John Lusby marsh also. A pair of adults with 4 downy young were seen in the sanctuary on June 6/74. Eight were noted in a drained impoundment on July 5/80.
- Fall this species is common in fall whenever suitable habitat is created by lowering water levels. In August and Sept./78, as many as 50 were present in imp. #2. Eight were seen on Oct. 28/79, providing the latest record for Chignecto NWA.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - Oct.

71. AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER (Pluvialis dominica)

Status: Rare to uncommon fall transient.

Occurrence: Very few records available, but probably occurs annually in fall migration. Existing records are: 7 on Oct. 8/73, l flying over on Oct. 21/77, and 2 from Aug. 27 - Sept. 2/78, all at A.P.B.S. On Oct. 25/80, 55 Golden Plovers were feeding on sod fields just east of the John Lusby marsh. Normal Season of Occurrence: late Aug. - Oct.

72. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Status: Fairly common transient.

Habitat: Fields, salt marsh, drained or lowered impoundments.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - little information available, but probably first occurs around mid May. A high count was 45, in a drained impoundment on the John Lusby marsh on May 22/80. In some years, it seems as though a few non-breeding birds remain on the John Lusby marsh through the period between spring and fall migration, as small numbers are sometimes recorded through June and early July.

Fall - Numbers increase again by mid-July and, when habitat is available, remain through to early November. Most fall maxima are between 20 and 40 birds.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May - late June, mid July - early Nov.

73. RUDDY TURNSTONE (Arenaria interpres)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One record. C. Desplanque reported 1-3 present in the Burgess impoundment from June 7-27/80, a most unseasonal occurrence. To be expected occasionally in fall migration.

## 74. AMERICAN WOODCOCK (Philohela minor) b?

Status: Uncommon transient (and summer resident?)

Habitat: Wet, shrubby areas; alders (migration).

Occurrence: Records suggest that it probably occurs annually in migration in very small numbers, and while summer records are lacking, it may possibly breed somewhere within the wildlife area. The few available records range from April 1 - Oct. 8.

Norman Season of Occurrence: Apr. - Oct.

75. COMMON SNIPE (Capella gallinago) B

Status: Fairly common spring transient and summer resident, common to very common fall transient.

Habitat: Marshes, wet fields.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first appears around mid April, earliest Mar. 17/80 (unusually early), Apr. 6/74. Most spring sightings are of small numbers, the highest being 8+ seen or heard on Apr. 25/74.

> <u>Summer</u> - little information available, but probably breeds annually in the sanctuary in low numbers.

Fall - occasionally very large numbers concentrate in the impounded marshes at A.P.B.S., especially when water levels are lower than normal. High counts include 300 on Oct. 1/76 and 100+ on Aug. 24/78. Counts of 10-30 are more typical at that season. Latest records on file are Nov. 16/75 (1), and Nov. 4/73 (1).

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr. - Oct.

76. WHIMBREL (Numenius phaeopus)

Status: Rare to uncommon fall transient.

Occurrence: Only 3 records available, but probably occurs annually, as it does in many nearby areas. Available records are 1 on Aug. 31/78 and 5 on Aug. 28/73 on the John Lusby salt marsh, and the sanctuary record - a single bird flying over on Aug. 27/78.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Aug.

77. SPOTTED SANDPIPER (Actitus macularia) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Ponds, most fresh and salt marsh habitats; impoundments, on John Lusby marsh, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - probably arrives in mid-late May, earliest records May 13/78, May 15/76. All records of 1-3 birds.

> <u>Summer</u> - though many summer records exist for both A.P.B.S. (nest on artificial islands in impoundments?) and the John Lusby salt marsh (e.g. 12 in Burgess imp. on July 3/79), no definite nesting records are available, though breeding undoubtedly occurs annually.

<u>Fall</u> - no information on file; an early migrant, probably rare after mid September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May - mid Sept.

78. SOLITARY SANDPIPER (Tringa solitaria)

Status: Very rare spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Forest ponds and swamps, marshes, impoundments, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - one observation only, a single bird on an unspecified date in May/78.

Fall - probably occurs annually. All available records span the period July 27-Oct. 7, and all were of single birds except for 3 together at Newcombes Lake on Sept. 28/78.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (May) Aug. - Sept.

79. GREATER YELLOWLEGS (Tringa melanoleuca)

Status: Common spring and very common fall transient.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats, J.L.M. impoundments, wet fields, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first appears in late April. Earliest Apr. 16/76 (3), Apr. 17/78 (2), Apr. 19/80 (2). Spring maxima usually 15-25, occasionally more (e.g. 60+ on May 15/74), especially when a drained or lowered impoundment exists. Numbers drop in late May and, while records are lacking for June, probably occurs occasionally to the middle of that month.

> Fall - fall migrants appear early, usually before mid July (earliest, 5 on July 7/75). Numbers increase gradually through July and August. Fall maxima depend on availability of suitable feeding areas, but generally are much higher than in spring. High counts include 100 in an impoundment on the J.L.M. in late Aug./77, and 80+ in a drained impoundment at A.P.B.S. on Oct. 28/79. Late records include 10 on Nov. 4/73 and 25 on Nov. 3/79.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr. - mid June, mid July - early Nov.

80. LESSER YELLOWLEGS (Tringa flavipes)

Status: Rare spring and very common fall transient.

Habitat: All fresh and salt marsh habitats, J.L.M. impoundments, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - probably occurs occasionally in spring; though only one record on file - 2 present on the John Lusby marsh, May 3-10/80.

> Fall - first southward bound migrants sometimes appear in late June, earliest June 22/80 (8). Numbers increase rapidly in July and usually peak late in the month or early in August. High counts include 500 in late July/78, 200 on July 23/77, 140 on July 5/80, 125 on July 30/75. Numbers drop in August, and by late in the month, this species is outnumbered by its larger relative. Small numbers of juveniles probably occur in September and October, though records are lacking.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (May 3-10) early July - Sept.

81. WILLET (Catoptrophorus semipalmatus) b?

Status: Rare to uncommon transient and summer visitant/resident.

Habitat: Salt marsh.

Occurrence: This species has recently become established as a breeding species near Sackville, and appears to be spreading to the John Lusby salt marsh. The first record for Chignecto N.W.A. was of one flying over A.P.B.S. on Aug. 23/78. In 1979, one was seen in the Burgess imp. on Sept. 18 and in 1980 at least one bird was present and acting territorial through much of the summer near the Burgess imp.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May? - Aug.

82. RED KNOT (Calidris canutus)

Status: Rare fall transient.

- Occurrence: Prior to 1980, the only record of this species at Chignecto National Wildlife Area was of an adult in breeding plumage seen at A.P.B.S. and in the Burgess impoundment on July 27/78. In 1980, as many as 53 ads. (July 16) in breeding plumage used the Burgess impoundment (which had been drained) for roosting at high tide throughout mid-late July.
- 83. PURPLE SANDPIPER (Calidris maritima)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One sight record. Con Desplanque reported 2 individuals of this marine shorebird at A.P.B.S. on the very early date of Aug. 16/78.

84. PECTORAL SANDPIPER (Calidris melanotos)

Status: Very rare spring and fairly common to common fall transient.

- Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments (preferred), fresh and salt marshes, fields, etc.
- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> one record only. R. Burrows reported a single bird at A.P.B.S. from May 20-23/78.

Fall - usually first noted in mid-late July. Earliest
 July 5/80 (10), July 12/77 (4), July 16/78 (4).
 Numbers remain low through July and August, then
 increase greatly with the arrival of juveniles in
 September and October, especially if an impoundment

has been drained or lowered, proyiding ideal habitat for this species. High counts include 80+ on Sept. 28/78, 60 on Oct. 11/78, 50 on Sept. 8/75 and 40 on Oct. 28/79. Late records are of 10 on Nov. 11/78, and 15 on Nov. 3/79.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (May 20-23) late July - early Nov.

85. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (Calidris fuscicollis)

Status: Very rare spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Drained and lowered impoundments, salt marsh, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> one record. Up to 10 were noted by Con Desplanque at A.P.B.S. from May 20 to at least June 10/78.
  - Fall small numbers recorded almost annually, especially when sutiable habitat exists. Earliest records are July 28/78 and July 30/79, these summer observations involving adults. A later flight in October and November is composed of juvenile birds. High counts include 25 on Nov. 3/74 and 25 on Nov. 4/78. Latest records on file are Nov. 23/74 and Nov. 14/76 (2).

Normal Season of Occurrence: (May 20 - June 10) Aug. - early Nov.

86. LEAST SANDPIPER (Calidris minutilla)

Status: Uncommon spring and common fall transient.

Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments, salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - though only one record available (2+ on May 22/80), this species undoubtedly occurs each spring in small numbers. Fall - an early migrant, first appearing in early July (e.g. 100 in Burgess imp., July 5/80, 14 in Russell imp., July 7/75; 50 at A.P.B.S., July 16/78). Apparently the highest number recorded at Chignecto N.W.A. was 200 on July 16/80. Though records are lacking, this species is probably regular through September. A very late record is of 1 in imp. #2 on Nov. 4/78.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May - early June, early July - Sept.

87. DUNLIN (Calidris alpina)

Status: Rare fall transient.

Occurrence: Although few records exist, this species occasionally roosts in large numbers in late fall in drained or lowered impoundments, such as existed at A.P.B.S. in 1978 ( $\max^{\underline{m}}$ 430 on Nov. 4) and 1979 ( $\max^{\underline{m}}$  90+ on Nov. 3). Two other records involve single birds, 1 on Aug. 16/78 in a drained impoundment at A.P.B.S., and an adult in breeding plumage present in the Burgess impoundment on the unseasonal dates of July 5-6/80.

88. SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER (Calidris pusilla)

Status: Rare spring and very common fall transient.

Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments, salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - probably occurs occasionally in spring in small

numbers. Twelve were noted at A.P.B.S. on May 25/76.

Fall - small numbers arrive early in July (e.g. 10 on July 4/77, 40 on July 5/80), then build up rapidly until late in the month when, <u>if</u> suitable habitat exists, immense flocks roost in the J.L.M. impoundments at high tide, occasionally numbering up to 50,000. Flocks of this magnitude occurred in early August/77 and again in late July-early August/78. Numbers drop off through August and September and few remain by October - the latest available records being 1 on Oct. 24/73 and 3 on Nov. 3/74.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (late May) early July - mid Oct.

89. WESTERN SANDPIPER (Calidris mauri)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: Two records - Stuart Tingley watched an adult in breeding plumage for several minutes at close range in the Burgess impoundment on July 16/80. Edgar Spalding reported a juvenile in the Russell impoundment in late August, 1981.

90. SANDERLING (Calidris alba)

Status: Very rare fall transient.

- Occurrence: Only one record available. C. Desplanque reported 2 on the John Lusby marsh, July 26/77.
- 91. SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER (Limnodromus griseus)

Status: Common to very common fall transient,

Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments (especially on J.L.M.) salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: Southbound dowitchers appear early, usually in the first week of July, occasionally a few days earlier. Numbers build up rapidly and usually peak late in the month. High counts include 500+ on July 26/78 and 400 on July 30/75. While little information is available, this species probably occurs regularly into early September, after which time most dowitcher records have proved to be the following species.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early July - early September

92. LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER (Limnodromus scolopaceus)

Status: Rare fall transient.

Occurrence: This species which, unlike the previous, prefers fresh margins over salt or brackish areas, has occurred at A.P.B.S. several times in recent years with almost all records coming from drained or lowered impoundments. The records are:

Oct. 10/75 - The Cove, A.P.B.S.
 ads., breeding plumage - July 1-10/77 - Burgess imp.
 1-7 - Aug. 29-Nov. 11/78 - A.P.B.S. (max<sup>m</sup> 7 Oct. 11-12).
 1-5 - Oct. 28 - Nov. 3/79 - A.P.B.S. #2

93. STILT SANDPIPER (Micropalama himantopus)

Status: Rare to uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments, salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: This species has occurred annually at Chignecto N.W.A. since first being recorded in 1975. Most records involve adults in breeding plumage in July and August (earliest July 16/78 (2) and July 16/80 (1)), the largest number being 6-8 in early Aug./75 at the Burgess impoundment. Later records include 1 at A.P.B.S. on Sept. 19/78, and an exceptionally late bird seen daily in imp. #2 at A.P.B.S. from Oct. 28 - Nov. 1/79.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid July - mid Sept.

94. BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (Tryngites subruficollis)

Status: Very rare fall transient.

Occurrence: Andrew Clarke and Con Desplanque had excellent views of one in imp. #2, which had been drained, on Sept. 19/78.

95. HUDSONIAN GODWIT (Limosa haemastica)

Status: Very rare to rare fall transient.

Occurrence: This species was first recorded at Chignecto N.W.A. when 4 were noted at A.P.B.S. in mid-August/ 50 (C.E. Addy). It was not recorded again until the fall of 69 when J. Van Zoost listed it as being among the birds noted during his study of the John Lusby Marsh. Another gap of 11 years followed before this species was recorded again. In July 1980, a flock of godwits roosted daily in the drained Burgess impoundment, first noted on July 12 (42 adults in breeding plumage) by C. Desplanque and S. Tingley and increasing to at least <u>70</u> by July 25 (E. Mills). This species would probably prove to occur annually if suitable roosting habitat was provided in July and August. 96. RUFF (Philomachas pugnax)

Status: Very rare summer visitant.

Two records. Davis Finch discovered a dark  $\sigma$  in the Burgess impoundment on June 30/75, which was subsequently seen by several others. In 1980, a black  $\sigma$  just beginning to moult into winter plumage, was noted at this same impoundment by Gay Hansen on July 4. Many birders were able to study and photograph this bird, which was well advanced into its moult by the time it departed on July 13.

97. RED PHALAROPE (Phalaropus fulicarius)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One record. Con Desplanque reported 2 in the Cove on Oct. 21/73, a most unusual location for this normally pelagic bird.

## 98. WILSON'S PHALAROPE (Phalaropus tricolor)

Status: Rare to uncommon fall transient, possibly rare summer resident?

Habitat: Drained or lowered impoundments, salt and fresh marsh, etc.

Occurrence: Between 1 and 4 individuals of this species have occurred annually at Chignecto N.W.A. each fall since 1975, usually first recorded in late July or early August, latest records being Sept. 2/78 and Aug. 29/77. However, in 1980, an ad. ? was recorded in the Burgess impoundment on July 5. Then, on July 16, an ad. ractored and 2 fully-grown juveniles appeared at the same location, suggesting that breeding could possibly have occurred locally. There are no definite breeding records for this species in Atlantic Canada, though they are strongly suspected of doing so at Tintamarre N.W.A. and possibly also Cape Jourimain N.W.A.

Normal Season of Occurrence: July - Aug.

99. NORTHERN PHALAROPE (Phalaropus lobatus)

Status: Rare fall transient.

- Occurrence: Three records. S. Tingley reported 1 feeding in the Russell impoundment on Aug. 25/73, C. Desplanque reported 1 at the Burgess imp. on Aug. 8/76 and S. Tingley saw an adult <sup>9</sup> in breeding plumage in the Burgess impoundment on July 13/80.
- 100. GLAUCOUS GULL (Larus hyperboreus)

Status: Very rare to rare transient (and winter visitant?).

- Occurrence: Although only one record exists for this species, an adult on the J.L.M. on Mar. 23/74 (S. Tingley), it may in fact occur regularly with the many gulls that frequent the salt marsh, especially in early spring.
- 101. ICELAND GULL (Larus glaucoides)

Status: Rare transient (and winter visitant?)

Occurrence: This species probably occurs almost annually in small numbers, especially in spring migration when large numbers of gulls frequent the John Lusby salt marsh. However, the only records on file are of 2 on the John Lusby marsh on Mar. 25/79, and an adult sitting on the ice near an open lead in imp. #2 on Mar. 29/80 (both S. Tingley). 102. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL (Larus marinus) b.

Status: Common transient, fairly common summer visitant/resident, uncommon winter visitant.

- Habitat: Most common on salt marsh, also in impoundments, Layton's Lake, etc.
- Occurrence: Unfortunately, few people bother to record gulls, so detailed information is not available. Probably occurs in greatest numbers on the salt marsh in March and April. Also frequently seen in lakes and impoundments at A.P.B.S. On April 30, 1979, an empty nest was discovered on a spoil island in imp. #2. Although eggs were laid, this nest was apparently unsuccessful.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round

- 103. HERRING GULL (Larus argentatus)
  - Status: Common transient and summer visitant, uncommon winter visitant.
  - Habitat: Most common on salt marsh, also occurs in impoundments and in Layton's Lake at A.P.B.S.
  - Occurrence: As with the former species, little information is available. This species certainly outnumbers the former at the John Lusby marsh, but seems to be less common on the fresh water of A.P.B.S. At least 75 were on the John Lusby marsh on Arpil 4/80.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round

104. RING-BILLED GULL (Larus delawarensis)

Status: Fairly common spring transient, uncommon summer visitant and fall transient.

Habitat: Impoundments on John Lusby marsh, salt marsh and adjacent fields, occasionally impoundments of A.P.B.S.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - occurs annually in small numbers, at least in recent years. Earliest Mar. 25/79 (2 ads.), Apr. 4/80 (22 ads.). Highest number ever recorded was 28+ on the John Lusby salt marsh, Apr. 24/80.

- <u>Summer</u> several records of sub-adult birds remaining into summer (e.g. 20 at J.L.M. on June 27/80).
- <u>Fall</u> records lacking, but this species probably occurs regularly in small numbers on the salt marsh into November.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr. - Nov.

105. BONAPARTE'S GULL (Larus philadephia)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Four records. The first record for Chignecto NWA was of 2 imm. birds seen at A.P.B.S. on Sept. 22/66 by A. J. Erskine. Subsequent records, all involving single birds have been on May 3-4/74, Oct. 5/74 (imm.), and a first summer bird on July 1/78 (S. Tingley). 106. COMMON TERN (Sterna hirundo)

Status: Rare fall transient.

- Occurrence: At least 4 records, all in August, as follows: Aug. 1/73 (1) at Russell imp., Aug. 23/75 (1) on John Lusby marsh, Aug. 1/78 (3) at A.P.B.S., and Aug. 5/79 (8) at A.P.B.S.
- 107. CASPIAN TERN (Sterna caspia)

Status: Very rare transient.

- Occurrence: One record. B. Mactavish and S. Tingley saw an adult in non-breeding plumage sitting on a spoil island in the Burgess impoundment on July 30/75.
- 108. BLACK TERN (Chlidonias niger) b

Status: Uncommon transient and fairly common summer resident.

Habitat: Impoundments at A.P.B.S.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - earliest May 12/77 (1), May 21/80 (2), May 22/78 (1). Whether these are migrants or summer residents is uncertain, but the latter seems most likely.

> <u>Summer</u> - this species first became established at A.P.B.S. in 1977, and probably 2-4 pairs have nested annually since then. Flying young have been noted as early as July 12/80.

Fall - an early migrant, this species is usually gone by the middle of August. Late birds include 1 at A.P.B.S. from Aug. 21-27/73 and 1 there on Aug. 23-24/75. An immature bird at the Burgess impoundment on July 30/79 was probably a migrant.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May - mid Aug.

109. THICK-BILLED MURRE (Uria lomvia)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: This species undoubtedly occurred at Chignecto National Wildlife Area during the severe storm just before Christmas/76 when small numbers were grounded throughout the local marshes. Con Desplanque reported at that time that "someone saw a number crossing the road at Amherst Point and thought they were penguins".

110. ROCK DOVE (Columba livia)

Status: Uncommon year round visitant.

Habitat: Most records are of birds flying over.

Occurrence: Rock Doves are often seen flying over A.P.B.S. as they commute between the many farms in the area.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round

111. MOURNING DOVE (Zenaida macroura)

Status: Very rare spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Fields, impoundment dykes.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - 1 at A.P.B.S. on Apr. 4/78 appears to be the only spring record.

Fall - several records of 1-4 birds probably occurs almost annually. Typical records include 1 on Sept. 15/54, 2 on Sept. 26/62, and 2 on Oct. 30/80, all at A.P.B.S. Earliest Sept. 12/73 (4) and latest were 2 on Nov. 28/78.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (Apr. 4) Sept. - Nov.

112. BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccysus erythropthalmus) b?

Status: Rare transient (and summer resident?)

- Occurrence: This secretive species has been detected at Chignecto N.W.A. on very few occasions. Con Desplanque noted several during July/72 at A.P.B.S. and the same observer reported hearing this species there in late June/74. Probably occurs more regularly at least in migration, than these few records would suggest.
- 113. GREAT HORNED OWL (Bubo virginianus) b?

Status: Uncommon permanent resident.

Habitat: Forests.

Occurrence: C. Desplanque has observed this species at A.P.B.S. on several occasions including an adult with 2 downy young on June 29/77, suggesting local breeding.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round?

114. SNOWY OWL (Nyctea scandiaca)

Status: Very rare to rare transient and winter visitant?

- Occurrence: Though records are not available, this species undoubtedly occurs occasionally on the John Lusby marsh between November and March, judging by its occurrence on adjacent marshes.
- 115. BARRED OWL (Strix varia) b?

Status: Uncommon permanent resident? Habitat: Forest Occurrence: While breeding has not been confirmed, several records of single birds at A.P.B.S. in all seasons would suggest that nesting does occur in the vicinity.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

116. SHORT-EARED OWL (Asio flammeus) b?

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Fields and salt marsh of J.L.M.

Occurrence: While available records are few, they are well distributed from April to December, with several in mid summer suggesting that nesting occurs on the John Lusby Marsh.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Apr. - Dec.

117. SAW-WHET OWL (Aegolius acadicus) b?

Status: Rare permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest

Occurrence: While only one record is available (1 calling at A.P.B.S. on May 3/80), this species may occur regularly in migration and could prove to be a summer or permanent resident.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round?

118. COMMON NIGHTHAWK (Chordeiles minor)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: While only 1 record is available (1 on May 25/80), this species undoubtedly occurs almost annually in migration and may possibly be found to occur in summer also. 119. CHIMNEY SWIFT (Chaetura pelagica)

Status: Uncommon transient?

Occurrence: As with the previous species, very few records are available, although Chimney Swifts probably occur annually in migration in mid-May and again in late August. One seen at APBS on April 30/76 was very early.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid-late May, mid-late Aug?

120. RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (Archilochus colubris) b?

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident?

Occurrence: Few records available. Has been noted feeding in patch of Fireweed *Epilobium angustifolium* near APBS parking lot in summer so probably breeds.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early Sept?

121. BELTED KINGFISHER (Megaceryle alcyon) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Ponds at APBS, impoundments at JLM, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - earliest Apr. 6/74, Apr. 18/76. Most records of 1 or 2 birds; most frequently seen at the Cove.

- <u>Summer</u> No breeding data available, but probably 1-2 pairs nest annually, as summer records are frequent both at APBS and on the JLM.
- <u>Fall</u> fall exodus probably occurs in late September and early October. Latest record for Chignecto NWA is of 1 on Oct. 27/73.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr.-mid Oct.

122. COMMON FLICKER (Colaptes auritus) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forests (nesting) and fields.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first arrives in third week of April. Earliest Apr. 17/77 (4), Apr. 17/76 (5+). Numbers remain quite high until mid-May.

- <u>Summer</u> probably several pairs nest annually at APBS, and in forests adjacent to the John Lusby marsh. Egg dates for 5 nests range from May 26 (4 eggs) to June 25.
- <u>Fall</u> though little data is available, this species probably occurs in largest numbers in late September and October. An extremely late record is of 1 at APBS on Dec. 28/75.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

123. PILEATED WOODPECKER (Dryocopus pileatus)

Status: Rare visitant.

Occurrence: Two records. Bill Barrow reported one at APBS on April 1/76, and Con Desplanque saw one at APBS on Feb. 1/81.

124. YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (Sphyrapicus varius)

Status: Very rare transient?

Occurrence: No records available, though this species must surely occur occasionally in migration.

125. HAIRY WOODPECKER (Picoides villosus) B

Status: Fairly common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: While present year-round, this species seems most conspicuous in late fall and winter when concentrated in areas under attack by the spruce bark beetle. High counts include 10 on Nov. 10/74, and 15 on Feb. 15/76.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

126. DOWNY WOODPECKER (Picoides pubescens) B

Status: Fairly common permanent resident.

- Habitat: Forests, also in alders and other small trees in regenerating fields.
- Occurrence: This species is perhaps slightly less common than the previous species at Chignecto NWA, yet is present in small numbers at all seasons.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

- 127. BLACK-BACKED 3-TOED WOODPECKER (*Picoides arcticus*) b?
  - Status: Uncommon to fairly common winter visitant. Rare summer resident?
  - Habitat: Forest: most commonly found in areas recently infected by spruce bark beetle.
  - Occurrence: This species has occurred in numbers at APBS each fall and winter since about 1973. High counts include 9 on Nov. 10/74, and 6+ on Oct. 25/80. These birds seem to have responded to the outbreak of spruce bark beetle first noted in the area in the early 70's. Almost all records are for the months Oct.-March but summer occurrences in 1980 would suggest that nesting may occur somewhere within the wildlife area.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Oct.-March (June-July).

128. NORTHERN 3-TOED WOODPECKER (*Picoides tridactylus*)

Status: Very rare winter visitant.

- Occurrence: One record. One or 2 females of this species were present with several Black-backed 3-toed's from Nov. 11-Dec. 19/78 at APBS, providing one of very few documented occurrences in Nova Scotia.
- 129. EASTERN KINGBIRD (Tyrannus tyrannus) b

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Regenerating fields.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - earliest records May 15/74 (2), May 16/80 (4). Small numbers regularly seen in migration during last half of May.

- <u>Summer</u> probably a few pairs nest annually in suitable habitat at APBS. In 1966, a nest containing 4 young was found on July 28, and in 1967 a nest with 3 eggs was found on June 12. Both nests were found in hawthorns at APBS.
- Fall an early migrant, most probably depart in mid to late August. Latest available record is of 2 on Aug. 24/61.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-Aug.

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130. EASTERN PHOEBE (Sayornis phoebe)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Only two records on file - S. Tingley heard 1 singing at APBS on Apr. 27/74, and J. McLaren reported one there on Aug. 9/79. Should occur more regularly than these 2 records would indicate.

131. YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (Empidonax flaviventris) b

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Very few records available - one was reported by S. Tingley on June 10/75 at APBS, and another there on May 20/78, reported by John and Shirley Cohrs. However, this species undoubtedly occurs regularly in migration. Apparently this species breeds, at least occasionally, at APBS as William McNutt discovered a nest there which contained 4 eggs on July 5/67 and 4 young on July 15. Fall migration probably occurs in late August-early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early September.

132. ALDER FLYCATCHER (Empidonax alnorum) B

- Status: Fairly common to common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Alders, regerating fields, etc.
- Occurrence: Little information available. Earliest records for this species are June 3/75 (4) and June 4/74 (1). It undoubtedly nests quite commonly in many areas of Chignecto NWA, though only 1 nesting record is available (nest w/4 well-grown

young in early August/73). Fall migration probably occurs in late August and early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early June-early September.

133. LEAST FLYCATCHER (Empidonax minimus) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: As with other *Empidonax* flycatchers, very little information available. Earliest record on file is May 16/74 (1 bird singing) while several June and July records would indicate that this species may breed regularly. W. McNutt reported a nest at APBS in 1967, containing 4 eggs on June 25, and 4 young on July 3. Fall migration probably late August-early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early September.

134. EASTERN WOOD PEWEE (Contopus virens) b?

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident?

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Very few records. Probably regular in migration in late May-early June and again in September. May breed, though no summer records available. Earliest record May 24/65.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-September?

135. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER (Nuttallornis borealis) b?

Status: Rare to uncommon transient and summer resident? Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Several older records including 2 July sightings suggesting that breeding may have occurred at APBS. This species probably occurs occasionally in migration in late Mayearly June, and again in late August-early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early September?

- 136. HORNED LARK (Eremophila alpestris) b?
  - Status: Very common spring and fairly common fall transient, uncommon winter visitant. (Rare summer resident?)

Habitat: Salt marsh, dykes, fields, pastures, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> - little information available, probably first migrants appear in late October.

- <u>Winter</u> some years small flocks of larks are found on the salt marsh and dykes through the winter.
- Spring although it is difficult to distinguish between spring migrants and wintering birds, numbers seem to appear in late February or early March annually. This species remains common through to mid or late April when most seem to have moved on. Over 200 were estimated near APBS on Mar. 27/77, and 150 were seen on the J.L.M. on Apr. 12/74.
- <u>Summer</u> only one summer record available 2 at APBS on June 12/77. This species may breed sparingly somewhere on or near Chignecto NWA.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Oct.-Apr. (June 12).

- 137. TREE SWALLOW (Iridoprocne bicolor) b
  - Status: Very common transient and fairly common summer resident/ visitant.

Habitat: Marshes, fields, ponds, etc., etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> first arrives at APBS almost invariably during 3rd week of April, earliest Apr. 10/81 (1), Apr. 14/79 (1) and Apr. 14/80 (35). Often large concentrations build up in late April, e.g. 900+ on Apr. 23/80, 500+ on Apr. 30/74. Numbers are much reduced in May, though several days of inclement weather will usually result in large numbers re-appearing over the ponds and marshes.
  - <u>Summer</u> small numbers present annually through the summer, e.g. 4 at Burgess impoundment on July 12/78, 2 at APBS on July 6/60, and 15 at Russell imp. on July 24/80. W. McNutt reported successful nesting in several nest boxes he erected in the late 60's. Wood Duck boxes are probably also used for nesting at APBS.
  - Fall concentrations of south-bound migrants appear at APBS by early August and often very large numbers are present late in the month (e.g. 2000+ on Aug. 24/75). No late dates are available, but this species is probably rare after the first week of September.

Note: An extended period of wet, cool weather in late May/74 resulted in several hundred Tree Swallows concentrating over the ponds and marshes of APBS. Strolling through the sanctuary on the evening of May 28, the author located approximately 200 swallows roosting in the roots of several large upturned trees along a power line. The swallows were packed into every crevace, frequently severaldeep and were exceptionally tame. As I walked past them, dozens flew up and clung to my cap, jacket, and pants and many clung to the back of my bewildered dog, apparently attracted by our body heat. Revisiting the site the next morning, it was apparent that a mammal had located the roost, as decapitated bodies littered the area.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid Apr.-early Sept.

138. BANK SWALLOW (Riparia riparia) b?

Status: Very common transient, common summer visitant/resident. Habitat: Marshes, ponds, fields, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - probably first appears during third week of May. Earliest record available is May 11/81 (1). Highest count is 3000 at APBS on May 25/80 though spring maxima usually much less than this.

> <u>Summer</u> - moderate numbers are seen through the summer annually at Chignecto NWA (e.g. 60 at Burgess imp. on July 3/79, 150 at APBS on July 6/80).

Whether or not these birds are breeding within the national wildlife area is not known.

<u>Fall</u> - little information available, but most undoubtedly depart in last half of August.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-early Sept.

139. BARN SWALLOW (Hirundo rustica) b?

Status: Very common transient and common summer visitant/resident. Habitat: Marshes, ponds, fields, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> usually first appears in late April. Earliest Apr. 14/80 (2), Apr. 20/76 (6). Spring maxima variable: 1000+ on May 14/77 was unusually high, 100+ on May 25/80 probably more typical.
  - <u>Summer</u> moderate numbers are present each summer, e.g. 20 at Burgess imp. on July 30/79, 20 at APBS on July 6/80. May nest occasionally within wildlife area.
  - Fall probably rare after early September. Ten on Sept. 20/75 were late, and 1 on Nov. 3/73 was undoubtedly a storm-driven stray.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-early Sept.

140. CLIFF SWALLOW (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota)

Status: Fairly common transient and uncommon summer visitant. Habitat: Marshes, ponds, fields, etc. Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - an exceptionally early record was of one seen well by several observers at APBS on April 21/74. Early-mid May is probably a normal arrival time. A high count was 15 on May 25/80.

- <u>Summer</u> a few birds are noted at Chignecto NWA through the summer each year (usually less than 5).
- <u>Fall</u> no information available, but probably rare after first of September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-early Sept.

141. PURPLE MARTIN (Progne subis)

Status: Uncommon transient (and summer visitant?)

Habitat: Marshes, ponds, fields, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> probably occurs annually in small numbers. Earliest Apr. 28/79 (1). Most records involve 1-5 birds, but at least 15 were present at APBS on May 25/80.
  - Fall the only fall record available is of 1 on Sept. 6/77, though it may occur annually in the large swallow concentrations in late August.
  - Note: No summer records, but should occur occasionally at that time. Records suggest that this species has become more regular at Chignecto NWA during last five years.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early May-early Sept.

142. GRAY JAY (Perisoreus canadensis) b?

Status: Uncommon permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: This species is surprisingly scarce at Chignecta NWA. Most frequently observed in autumn. A record at APBS on May 13/79 would suggest that breeding may occur in or near the wildlife area.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round?

143. BLUE JAY (Cyanocitta cristata) B

Status: Fairly common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: This species is much more frequently seen than the previous, and like it, is most conspicuous in fall. Most records involve 1-5 birds. Probably very scarce in winter.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

144. COMMON RAVEN (Corvus corax) b

Status: Fairly common to common permanent resident.

Habitat: Throughout.

Occurrence: This species is noted on all field trips to Chignecto NWA, usually in singles, pairs, or very small groups, though Con Desplanque reported a flock of 100 at APBS on Nov. 22/75. A pair nested in the small woodlot adjacent to the Russell impoundment annually from at least 1973-75. Nesting also occurs at APBS. 75.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

- 145. COMMON CROW (Corvus brachyrhynchos) B
  - Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident, fairly common winter visitant.

Habitat: Throughout.

Occurrence: This species outnumbers the former in all months except perhaps January and February. Very large flocks are sometimes seen in migration such as 280 on Mar. 12/57, and 500 on Oct. 20/76. A nest with 4 young was found at APBS on June 10/69.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

146. BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE (Parus atricapillus) B

Status: Common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forests, shrubby areas.

Occurrence: Numbers relatively constant throughout the year, though most conspicuous in fall and winter. Two nests in bird houses at APBS held 5 eggs and 6 eggs on June 4/67.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

147. BOREAL CHICKADEE (Parus hudsonicus) B

Status: Fairly common to common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest (conifers).

Occurrence: While conspicuous in fall and winter, when daily counts often exceed 20, can be frustratingly difficult to locate

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while nesting in late spring and summer. Egg dates for 3 nests in bird houses at APBS range from June 4 (7 eggs) to June 25.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

148. WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (Sitta carolinensis)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: Only one record available - 2 noted by C. Desplanque on Feb. 7/75 at APBS. This essentially non-migratory species nests in small numbers in hardwood forests in the Amherst area and may be found to do so occasionally at APBS.

149. RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (Sitta canadensis) b?

Status: Irregularly uncommon to common transient and winter visitant. Rare summer resident?

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: This species occurrence is very unpredictable, though it probably occurs most regularly in autumn. There was a good flight in the fall of 1974, when 30 were noted at APBS on Oct. 30/74 and 15 on Feb. 20/75. In other years, this species is virtually absent. One noted on Aug. 23/66 could have been a migrant or a locally breeding bird, though no other summer records are available.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round?

150. BROWN CREEPER (Certhia familiaris) b

Status: Uncommon permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: This inconspicuous species is noted in 1's or 2's throughout the year, but is easiest to find from late fall to early spring when most migrant birds are absent. Few people are familiar with its high-pitched, rolling song which can often be heard at Chignecto NWA as early as March.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

- 151. WINTER WREN (Troglodytes troglodytes) b
  - Status: Formerly uncommon transient and summer resident. Apparently unrecorded since 1976.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: In the early-mid 70's a few wrens were heard and seen annually at APBS, records spanning the period Apr. 14 to Dec. 6. This species was apparently hard-hit by severe weather in its wintering range during the winter of 1976-77. A sharp decline was noted throughout the Maritimes the following summer, and there are no subsequent records available for Chignecto NWA.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

152. LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN (Cistothorus palustris) b?

Status: Rare summer resident/visitant.

Habitat: Cat-tails.

Occurrence: One or two singing birds have been present at APBS through the last two summers (1979-80), and Con Desplanque suspects that he saw young there in August/80.

153. SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN (Cistothorus platensis)

Status: Very rare summer visitant.

- Occurrence: Boyer reported having heard this species at APBS, but makes no mention of number or date.
- 154. MOCKINGBIRD (Mimus polyglottos)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One record. Gordon Burns reported seeing one at APBS on Sept. 6, 1976.

155. GRAY CATBIRD (Dumetella carolinensis) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Thickets, dense shrubbery, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - earliest May 1/76 (<u>very</u> early), May 22/78, May 22/80. Scattered observations of 1-3 birds, most in last week of May and first week of June.

<u>Summer</u> - this species is occasionally noted in summer at APBS, where a nest was found in rosebushes, containing 4 eggs on June 20/67.

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Fall - only one record on file after August, 2 at APBS on Sept. 8/75. A few probably occur into late Sept.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

156. BROWN THRASHER (Toxostoma rufum)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: One record. R. Blacquiere, C. Desplanque, and S. Tingley observed one at APBS on Oct. 8, 1973.

157. AMERICAN ROBIN (Turdus migratorius) B

Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forests, regenerating fields, thickets, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - earliest Mar. 25/79, April 1/74. Little

information available, but probably common by mid-April in most years.

- <u>Summer</u> a common summer resident throughout Chignecto NWA. Nests with eggs have been found as early as May 21/69.
- Fall perhaps most common in fall migration in October.
   Several hundred were noted at APBS on Oct. 13/78.
   Latest record on file is Nov. 16/75 (2).

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr.-mid Nov.

158. HERMIT THRUSH (Catharus guttatus) b

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first noted in late April, earliest Apr. 23/77, Apr. 25/74. Most sightings of 1-4 birds.

- <u>Summer</u> no data available, but probably nests regularly in small numbers.
- Fall while only one record on file (1 on Oct. 12/75), this species undoubtedly occurs regularly in fall into mid or late October.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

159. SWAINSON'S THRUSH (Catharus ustulatus) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - this usually shy and retiring thrush first appears in mid-late May, earliest May 17/74 (4), May 22/78 (1), May 22/80 (6+). Occasionally very common in migration, such as on May 25/80 when S. Tingley estimated 85 at APBS. Late May and early June counts of 10-20 are common. <u>Summer</u> - nests commonly throughout Chignecto NWA. <u>Fall</u> - little information available, departs in September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-Sept.

160. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (Catharus minimus)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: While only one record is on file for Chignecto NWA (1 seen and heard by S. Tingley on May 25/80 at APBS), this species is probably overlooked in migration in late May-early June and again in late August-September.

161. VEERY (Catharus fuscescens)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: Only 2 records available, 1 on Sept. 1/75 near the John Lusby marsh, and 1 on Oct. 11/75 at APBS (very late), both reported by Con Desplanque. This species should be expected to occur more frequently in both spring and fall migration.

162. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (Regulus satrapa) B

Status: Common permanent resident.

Habitat: Forest (conifers).

Occurrence: A common forest bird at Chignecto NWA throughout the year, though sometimes difficult to locate during the nesting season and in occasional winters when most seem to migrate out of the area. Daily counts of 10-20 are common, with occasional counts as high as 40 (Oct. 28/72, Oct. 23/74) or 50 (Sept. 6/75). The high-pitched ascending song of this species is frequently heard in the forests from April to June.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

163. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (Regulus calendula) B

Status: Common transient and fairly common summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - first arrivals usually appear during period Apr. 20-25, earliest Apr. 14/80 (1), Apr. 19/77 (1). Counts of 20-40 are common during the height of spring migration in late April and early May.

- <u>Summer</u> though summer records are unavailable, this species undoubtedly breeds throughout the wooded areas of Chignecto NWA.
- Fall little information available, latest record is Oct. 17/78 (2), but probably occurs occasionally into November.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-mid Oct.

164. WATER PIPIT (Anthus spinoletta)

Status: Rare spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: Fields, marsh.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - At least 2 records available - 1 on May 8/78, and 15+ on May 8/74, both at APBS.

> Fall - much more regular in fall, first appearing in late September-early October. Earliest Sept. 25/76 (2), Sept. 28/78 (2), while latest records Nov. 14/76 (2), Nov. 1/79 (1). Most fall records of 1-5 birds.

Normal Season of Occurrence: (May 8) late Sept.-early Nov.

165. BOHEMIAN WAXWING (Bombycilla garrulus)

Status: Rare winter visitant.

Occurrence: Two records, both in 1975. Con Desplanque reported a small flock present at APBS in February of that year, while Stuart Tingley saw a single bird there on Nov. 22.

166. CEDAR WAXWING (Bombycilla cedrorum) b

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Regenerating fields, open woodland, etc.

Occurrence: Though very little information is available, this species undoubtedly occurs regularly in small numbers from early June (earliest record May 30/75) to September (latest Sept. 14/75).

Normal Season of Occurrence: early June-Sept.

167. NORTHERN SHRIKE (Lanius excubitor)

Status: Uncommon transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Open woods, wood edge, regenerating fields, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> - probably occurs each year in very small numbers, first appearing in late October or early November, earliest Oct. 21/73.

> <u>Winter</u> - several records for Jan.-Feb. at both APBS and J.L.N.W.A.

<u>Spring</u> - sightings increase again in March with northbound migrants, latest records Apr. 21/79, Apr. 15/71, Apr. 15/73.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Nov.-mid Apr.

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168. LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (Lanius ludovicianus)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: Two records. C.O. Bartlett reported one at APBS on Apr. 25/57, and C. Desplanque noted one at the same location on Sept. 15/74.

- 169. STARLING (Sturnus vulgaris) B
  - Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident/ visitant, uncommon winter visitant.

Habitat: Fields, salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: Large flocks, often numbering several hundred, are frequently seen in spring and again in late summer and fall. Nesting occurs in both natural cavities and in Wood Duck boxes which were first erected in 1975. Of 11 boxes erected at APBS that year, 7 were occupied by nesting Starlings. Most winter observations are probably of birds commuting between local farms.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

170. SOLITARY VIREO (Vireo solitarius) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Little information available. Records scan the period May 10-Oct. 23 (late). Undoubtedly breeds in small numbers throughout Chignecto NWA.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-Sept.

171. RED-EYED VIREO (Vireo olivaceus) B

Status: Fairly common to common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Hardwoods.

Occurrence: Occurs from early June (earliest June 3/75) to mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early June-mid Sept.

172. BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER (Mniotilta varia) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Arrives around mid-May, earliest May 10/81 (2), May 12/77 (2), May 12/79 (1). Eight were noted on May 18/74 and 6 on May 25/80. A nest at APBS on June 22/67 contained 4 eggs. Fall data lacking but probably rare after late September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

173. TENNESSEE WARBLER (Vermivora peregrina) B

Status: Fairly common to common transient, uncommon summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: First spring migrants often appear during 3rd week of May, earliest May 10/81 (1), May 13/79 (2). A high count was 15 on May 25/80. Probably nests in small numbers, though summer observations are not available. Rare after mid-September. Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

174. NASHVILLE WARBLER (Vermivora ruficapilla) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Open woodland, regenerating fields, etc.

Occurrence: This species appears at Chignecto NWA around mid-May, earliest May 11/81 (5), May 12/79 (1). Probably breeds in suitable habitat, and departs by mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

175. NORTHERN PARULA (Parula americana) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: This attractive warbler first appears in mid-May, earliest May 10/81 (2), May 13/79 (2), May 15/74 (1). High counts include 12 on May 25/80, and 6 on May 18/74. A few probably nest within Chignecto NWA. Latest record is of 1 on Sept. 6/75, but undoubtedly occurs regularly until mid-month.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

176. YELLOW WARBLER (Dendroica petechia) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Regenerating fields, alders, thickets, etc.

Occurrence: First arrivals usually appear near mid-May, earliest May 13/79 (2), May 15/74 (1). A high count was 35+ on May 25/80, 5-10 being more typical daily counts. Nests in suitable habitats throughout Chignecto NWA. Egg dates for 6 nest range from June 12 (5 eggs) to June 25. No fall observations on file, probably rare after mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

177. MAGNOLIA WARBLER (Dendroica magnolia) B

Status: Fairly common to common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest (younger growth).

Occurrence: Usually first appears around mid-May, 1 on May 5/73 was very early. A few probably nest in suitable habitat. No fall data available, but probably scarce after mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

178. CAPE MAY WARBLER (Dendroica tigrina) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: First appears in mid-May, earliest records on file are May 10/81 (1), May 14/72 (1) and May 15/74 (1). Though summer records are lacking, a few probably nest annually. Rare after mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

179. BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (Dendroica caerulescens)

Status: Rare transient?

Occurrence: Surprisingly, no records are available for this species at Chignecto NWA, though it must surely occur occasionally in spring and fall migration.

180. YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (Dendroica coronata) B

Status: Common to very common transient, fairly common summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: An often abundant spring migrant, usually first appearing between Apr. 20-25, earliest Apr. 20/76 (30+). An unusually heavy flight in 1974 resulted in 250+ being reported at APBS on May 18, and 150 still there on the very late date of June 2. Counts of 20-50 are more typical in May. Probably nests throughout in suitable habitat. A late fall migrant, numbers occur until mid-October, with many later observations of 1-5 birds, latest Dec. 4/77 (1), Nov. 10/79 (1), Nov. 9/75 (1).

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

181. BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (Dendroica virens) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Usually appears first during 3rd week of May, earliest observation being May 11/81 (2). Probably nests though no summer data available. Departs in late Augustearly September, like most other parulids.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.

182. BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (Dendroica fusca) b?

Status: Uncommon transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forests.

Occurrence: Very few observations on file, though 10 were noted at APBS on May 25/80. Probably first arrives in 3rd week of May, departs by mid-September. May breed, though no summer records on file.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

183. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (Dendroica pensylvanica) b

Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Regenerating fields, open woodland, etc.

Occurrence: First appears in mid-late May, earliest May 18/74 (1), May 24/65 (1). Small numbers nest in suitable habitat throughout Chignecto NWA. Departs by early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

184. BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (Dendroica castanea) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Forest (conifers).

Occurrence: First appears in mid-late May, earliest May 18/74 (1), May 22/80 (3). Probably breeds in suitable habitat.

## Departs by early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

185. BLACKPOLL WARBLER (Dendroica striata)

Status: Fairly common transient.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Usually first appears in late May, occasionally earlier (e.g. May 13/79 (1), May 14/72 (1)). High counts include 15 on May 25/80, 9 on June 2/74. Latest spring record June 10/74 (1). Only fall record is of 2 on Sept. 27/77, but probably regular from mid-August to mid-September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early June, Aug.-mid Sept.

186. PALM WARBLER (Dendroica palmarum) b?

Status: Fairly common to common transient. (Rare summer resident?)

- Habitat: Fields and open woodland (migration), regenerating fields (nesting).
- Occurrence: Often arrives with first Yellow-rumps in late April, earliest Apr. 20/76 (3), Apr. 23/77 (5). Regular to about mid-May, and while summer records are lacking, this species may in fact nest somewhere within Chignecto NWA. In fall occurs most commonly from mid-Sept. to mid-Oct., latest record being of 2 on Oct. 17/78.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-mid Oct.

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187. OVENBIRD (Seiurus aurocapillus) b?

Status: Uncommon transient. (Rare summer resident?)

Habitat: Forest (hardwoods & mixed).

Occurrence: Surprisingly very few records for Chignecto NWA, all of single birds in spring. Earliest May 14/72, latest June 2/74. Undoubtedly occurs in small numbers in fall also. May breed in limited suitable habitat, though evidence is lacking.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.?

188. NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH (Seiurus noveboracensis) b?

Status: Fairly common transient. (Rare summer resident?) Habitat: Forest (wet areas).

Occurrence: As with the previous species, all records on file are for spring, the earliest being May 12/79 (1), latest June 2/74 (2). Sightings of single birds are the rule but <u>18</u> were noted on May 25/80, and 5 on May 18/74. Though no summer records are available for this species, it may be found to nest in small numbers in more isolated areas of APBS. Fall migration probably occurs in late August or early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-mid Sept.?

189. MOURNING WARBLER (Oporornis philadelphia)

Status: Uncommon transient.

Habitat: Thickets, regenerating fields, bushy areas.

Occurrence: This skulking warbler has been spotted on a very few occasions at APBS. The few records range from May 25 to June 10. Though fall records are lacking, this species undoubtedly occurs in late August/early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-early June, late Aug?-early Sept.?

190. COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (Geothlypis trichas) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Bushy areas, regenerating fields, shrubs, etc.

Occurrence: Usually first appears during 3rd week of May, earliest May 13/79 (3), May 17/74 (10+). High count 15 on May 22/80. Breeds commonly in suitable habitat throughout wildlife area. A nest at APBS on June 25/67 contained 4 eggs. This species is a late fall migrant, often occurring into October; latest Oct. 17/73.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-early Oct.

191. WILSON'S WARBLER (Wilsonia pusilla) b

Status: Fairly common transient and uncommon summer resident. Habitat: Regenerating fields, thickets, etc.

Occurrence: This warbler usually first appears at Chignecto NWA around May 20. One singing on May 11/81 was very early. High counts include 10 on May 25/80, 9 on June 2/74. Nests regularly in several areas of APBS and in forests bordering the John Lusby Salt Marsh. No fall data available, but probably regular until mid-September. Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

- 192. CANADA WARBLER (Wilsonia canadensis) b?
   Status: Uncommon to fairly common transient (and summer resident?)
   Habitat: Forest.
  - Occurrence: Few records available. Probably first appears in late May. As many as 11 were noted at APBS on June 2/74. One on June 14/80 suggests breeding may occur. Fall migration probably in late August-early September.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May- early September

193. AMERICAN REDSTART (Setophaga ruticilla) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Usually first appears in mid-May, earliest May 13/79 (10),May 17/74 (1). High counts include 30+ on June 2/74 and June 3/75. A common breeding warbler throughout Chignecto NWA. Scarce after mid-September, latest Oct. 8/73 (1).

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May-mid Sept.

**194.** HOUSE SPARROW (Passer domesticus)

Status: Uncommon visitant.

Habitat: Dykes of imp. #1 and in fields near J.L.M.

Occurrence: This species is occasionally noted at APBS, usually flying over in transit between local farms, but occasionally feeding in fields or on dykes.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

195. BOBOLINK (Dolichonyx oryzivorus) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Fields.

Occurrence: A common spring migrant, first flocks usually appearing between May 10-15, earliest May 9/73 (50), May 10/76 (2). Daily counts of 20-30 are common. Nests in suitable habitat at APBS, and especially common in fields adjacent to John Lusby marsh, particularly during the last half of July when many family groups congregate in these fields, sometimes numbering up to 200. William McNutt located 9 nests at APBS from 1966-69. Latest record is of 3 on Sept. 3/65.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid May-early Sept.

196. EASTERN MEADOWLARK (Sturnella magna)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: Only one record available - a single bird present on the John Lusby marsh from Sept. 25/76 to early in January/77, reported by Con Desplanque. Should occur more regularly than the single record would indicate. 197. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (Agelaius phoeniceus) B

Status: Very common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Fresh marshes, fields, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> an early migrant, often first appearing by mid-March. Earliest records are Mar. 8/74 (7), Mar. 12/77 (20). Territorial behaviour is usually not seen before early April. Daily counts of 50-100 are typical in spring.
  - <u>Summer</u> breeding studies by DU have shown an approximate density of 2.5 territorial males per hectare in APBS impoundments. William McNutt reported finding 48 nests at APBS in 1968 and 54 there in 1969!
  - Fall large flocks form in late summer, and fall migration is most noticeable in late October (e.g. 800+ on Oct. 23/74, 250 on Oct. 29/78). Rare after November. Latest record Dec. 27/72 (1).

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Mar.-Nov.

198. RUSTY BLACKBIRD (Euphagus carolinus) b?

Status: Uncommon transient and uncommon summer resident/visitant.

Habitat: Wet, forested areas (nesting), fields (migration).

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - a regular migrant in small numbers. Earliest April 12/74 (20), Apr. 16/76 (4), though undoubtedly occurs earlier than this. A very high count was 75+ on Apr. 25/74, counts of 5-10 being more typical.

96.

<u>Summer</u> - several summer records, so may breed in low numbers within the wildlife area.

Fall - less regularly recorded in fall, latest record Nov. 26/72, Oct. 21/73.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early Apr.-Oct.

199. COMMON GRACKLE (Quiscalus quiscula) B

Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Fields, marshes (feeding), isolated conifers (nesting).

Occurrence: Little data available. Earliest spring occurrence Mar. 25/79. High count 200+ on Apr. 23/75. Noted in moderate numbers throughout wildlife area in summer. McNutt reported 12 nests at APBS in both 1968 & 1969. Large flocks often noted in fall (e.g. 350 on Oct. 31/74). Probably occurs well into November.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March-Nov.

200. BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (Molothrus ater) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Throughout.

Occurrence: Usually first appears in late March, earliest Mar. 25/79. High spring count 50 on Apr. 23/75. Noted in summer throughout the wildlife area. Latest fall record Nov. 26/72 (20+).

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March-Nov.

97.

201. SCARLET TANAGER (Piranga olivacea)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: Only 1 record on file - an adult male noted by Con Desplanque at APBS on May 31/74. Should occur more regularly in both spring and fall than this single record would indicate.

202. ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (Pheucticus ludovicianus)

Status: Uncommon transient.

Habitat: Forest (hardwoods).

Occurrence: Several records, all in autumn, spanning the period Aug. 28-Oct. 7.

Note: Should also occur in spring migration in late May.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late May?, Sept.

203. EVENING GROSBEAK (Hesperiphona vespertina)

Status: Irregularly uncommon to common visitant.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: A sporadic visitor with occurrences in all seasons, though most regular in fall and least common in summer. No evidence of nesting.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

204. PURPLE FINCH (Carpodacus purpureus) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Rare winter visitant.

Habitat: Forest, budding and fruiting trees, etc.

Occurrence: While small numbers may occasionally be present through the winter, the first spring arrivals seem to appear in early-mid April. Probably breeds throughout wildlife area - a nest at APBS on July 23/66 contained 6 young. Fall migration probably most evident in October, though little data available.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Apr.-Oct. (Nov.?-March?)

- 205. PINE GROSBEAK (Pinicola enucleator)
  - Status: Irregularly uncommon to common transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Forest, budding and fruiting trees, etc.

Occurrence: Records range from mid-October to late April. Some years almost completely absent, while in other years numbers are noted on every field trip. Not recorded in summer.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Oct.-Apr.

206. COMMON REDPOLL (Carduelis flammea)

Status: Irregularly uncommon to common transient and winter visitant. Habitat: Alders, weeds, forest, etc.

Occurrence: Records span the period Oct. 20 to Mar. 20. As with previous species, sporadic in occurrence.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Oct.-March.

207. PINE SISKIN (Carduelis pinus) b?

Status: Irregularly uncommon to common transient, rare summer resident/visitant and winter visitant.

Habitat: Forest, weeds, etc.

Occurrence: Very sporadic in occurrence, but most regular in April and October. Two summer records suggest breeding may occur rarely. Not recorded in winter though probably occurs occasionally at that season.

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round?

208. AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (Carduelis tristis) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. (Rare winter visitant?)

Habitat: Regenerating fields, open woods, etc.

Occurrence: While small numbers may be present in winter in occasional years, the first spring migrants seem to appear around mid-May. Probably nests in small numbers. A nest found at APBS on Aug. 4/69 contained 2 eggs and 3 young, while one found there the following day contained 4 young. Little fall data available, latest record is of a flock of 10 on Nov. 10/74.

Normal Season of Occurrence: May-Nov. (Dec.?-Apr.?).

209. RED CROSSBILL (Loxia curvirostra)

Status: Rare transient/visitant.

Occurrence: Only one record - Con Desplanque "noted" this species at APBS in the fall of 1974. Undoubtedly occurs more regularly than this single record would indicate.

210. WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (Loxia leucoptera)

Status: Uncommon transient/visitant.

Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: Much more regularly observed than the Red Crossbill, records ranging from mid-August to early April. Most observations are of very small numbers, usually less than 5. May occur occasionally in summer though records lacking.

Normal Season of Occurrence: Aug.-Apr.

211. RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE (Pipilo erythrophthalmus)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: One record. S. Tingley saw an adult male at APBS on Oct. 13/78.

212. SAVANNAH SPARROW (Passerculus sandwichensis) B

Status: Common to very common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Fields, salt marsh, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first noted in late April, earliest Apr. 16/74, Apr. 22/78. Daily counts of 20+ are normal, especially on the John Lusby marsh. <u>Summer</u> - nests abundantly in suitable habitat. Egg dates for 3 nests range from May 29 to June 20.

Fall - fall exodus takes place in October. Late records include 1 on the John Lusby marsh on Dec. 14/74, and 2 at APBS in late Nov./75.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

213. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (Ammospiza caudacuta) B

Status: Common summer resident.

Habitat: Salt and fresh marshes, fields.

Occurrence: Usually first appears during first week of June, earliest May 26/73 (1). A common breeding bird, especially in the marshes and fields of John Lusby marsh, but also in impoundments at APBS. This species remains very vocal through to mid-August, when most other species are silent. No fall data available, but probably departs in September or early October.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early June-Sept.?

214. VESPER SPARROW (Poocetes gramineus)

Status: Very rare transient.

Occurrence: Only one record available - a single bird at APBS on Nov. 23/74, reported by Con Desplanque. 215. DARK-EYED JUNCO (Junco hyemalis) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident. Uncommon winter visitant.

Habitat: Forest, brush, etc.

Occurrence: Spring migrants usually first appear in late March. Counts 10-30 are typical in spring. Probably nests throughout wooded areas of Chignecto NWA. Fall migration probably most evident in October, though data is lacking. Small numbers remain through winter in some years (e.g. 2 on Feb. 20/75, 15 on Jan. 12/76).

Normal Season of Occurrence: year-round.

216. TREE SPARROW (Spizella arborea)

Status: Fairly common to common transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Shrubs, weedy fields, alders, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> - first fall migrants often appear in late October, earliest Oct. 20/76 (1), Oct. 21/77 (3+). Counts of 2-6 are common at this season.

- <u>Winter</u> a few probably present each year, though as many as 25 remained through the winter of 75-76 to feast on an uncut oat field at APBS.
- <u>Spring</u> numbers seem to increase again in April, and singing birds are often noted late in the month. Counts of 5-10 are common. Occurs into early May some years (e.g. 3 on May 4/74, 10 on May 1/76).

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Oct.-late Apr.

217. CHIPPING SPARROW (Spizella passerina) B

Status: Fairly common transient and summer resident. Habitat: Open woodland.

Occurrence: Little information available. Probably first arrives in early May, nests in small numbers in suitable habitat, and departs in late September and early October.

Normal Season of Occurrence: early May-early Oct.

218. FIELD SPARROW (Spizella pusilla)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: One record. S. Tingley noted one feeding with juncos at APBS on Apr. 23/80.

219. WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (Zonotrichia leucophrys)

Status: Rare transient.

Occurrence: The only record is of several noted at APBS in October, 1975. Should occur occasionally in spring migration (mid-late May) as well.

220. WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (Zonotrichia albicollis) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident. Rare winter visitant. Habitat: Forest.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - usually first appears in late April, earliest Apr. 23/77 (1), Apr. 23/80 (5). Counts of 5-10 are normal in spring. <u>Summer</u> - nests commonly in most wooded areas of Chignecto NWA. Egg dates for 5 nests range from June 1 (4 eggs) to June 19.

- Fall probably most numerous during fall migration in
   October. A high count was 50+ on Oct. 5/74.
   Occurs regularly into November.
- <u>Winter</u> 2 at APBS on Dec. 29/74 may have been wintering. Up to 10 remained in an oat field at APBS throughout the winter of 75-76.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-mid. Nov. (Dec.-March).

221. FOX SPARROW (Passerella iliaca)

Status: Fairly common spring and uncommon fall transient.

Habitat: On ground in wooded and shrubby areas.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> reported annually in small numbers, available records ranging from Apr. 7 to May 5, though probably first appears in late March. Occasionally occurs in large numbers during periods of severe weather, but counts of 2-5 are more normal.
  - Fall somewhat scarcer than in spring, records ranging from Oct. 25 to Nov. 12. A high count was 6 on Oct. 25/74.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March-Apr., mid Oct.-mid Nov.

222. LINCOLN'S SPARROW (Melospiza lincolnii) b?

Status: Uncommon transient.

Habitat: Regenerating fields, thickets, etc.

Occurrence: Occurs occasionally (probably annually) in small numbers in spring (available records range from May 18-28) and fall (only record available is of 2 on Oct. 5/74) migration. Undoubtedly overlooked by most observers. No summer records on file, though may nest rarely.

Normal Season of Occurrence: mid-late May, early Oct.

223. SWAMP SPARROW (Melospiza georgiana) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident.

Habitat: Fresh marshes, swampy areas.

Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> - this species first arrives at Chignecto NWA in mid-late April, earliest Apr. 11/81 (1), Apr. 14/74 (2), Apr. 20/76 (6). Spring counts of 2-6 are normal.

- <u>Summer</u> nests commonly in all suitable habitat in wildlife area.
- Fall fall migration probably occurs in late September and October. The latest record for Chignecto
   NWA is of 2 on Oct. 23/80, except for one very late bird at the Burgess impoundment on Jan. 1/80.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Apr.-Oct.

224. SONG SPARROW (Melospiza melodia) B

Status: Common transient and summer resident, rare winter visitant. Habitat: Regenerating fields, shrubby areas, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Spring</u> this species probably first arrives at Chignecto NWA in late March. The earliest record on file is of several at APBS on Mar. 25/79. High spring counts were 20+ on Apr. 16/74 and 30+ on Apr. 16/76. Counts of 10-15 are probably most typical.
  - <u>Summer</u> this species nests commonly throughout Chignecto NWA. Egg dates for 3 nests range from June 1 (5 eggs) to Aug. 3.
  - Fall migrates in October, latest date on file is 1 on Nov. 19/72.
  - <u>Winter</u> 3 or 4 Song Sparrows remained with other sparrows in an uncut oat field at APBS through the winter of 75-76.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late March-mid. Nov. (Dec.-Feb.)

225. LAPLAND LONGSPUR (Calcarius lapponicus)

Status: Fairly common transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Salt marsh, dykes, fields, etc.

Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> - this species is usually first noted at Chignecto NWA in late October or early November, earliest Oct. 25/80 (25), Nov. 1/79 (3). Occurs in flocks and small groups, often with Snow Buntings and Horned Larks, throughout the fall.

- <u>Winter</u> few records available, but small numbers are probably present on the salt marsh in most winters. Three were noted at APBS on Jan. 10/76, and an exceptionally large flock of 315 was noted near the Burgess impoundment on Jan. 1/80, feeding in a large patch of Sueda maritima.
- <u>Spring</u> much less frequently recorded than in the fall, probably because of less observer effort. Several records for March, but only one later - a male in breeding plumage at the John Lusby marsh on April 20/76.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Oct.-March.

226. SNOW BUNTING (Plectrophenax nivalis)

Status: Common to very common transient and winter visitant.

Habitat: Salt marsh, dykes, fields, etc.

- Occurrence: <u>Fall</u> often first recorded during the last week of October, earliest records being Oct. 20/76 (few), Oct. 25/80 (5). Some years very large flocks are present through the fall and winter (e.g. 500+ on Dec. 9/78 at JLM), while in other years only groups of 5-50 are noted.
  - <u>Winter</u> abundance at this season varies somewhat between years, but counts of 100 or more are not uncommon.

Spring - this species seems to be more abundant again in late Feb. and March, probably due to the presence of northbound migrants. A high count was 350+ on Mar. 20/77 near APBS. Rarely recorded after mid-April, with late sightings being 3 on Apr. 22/72, and 10 on May 2/76, both on the John Lusby salt marsh.

Normal Season of Occurrence: late Oct.-early Apr.

## ADDENDUM

Two new species for Chignecto N.W.A. were recorded in late spring 1981, too late for inclusion in the main body of the text:

227. BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (Polioptila caerulea)

Status: Very rare visitant.

- Occurrence: One record. On May 25, 1981, K. Cash and S. Tingley watched a male for several minutes as it fed and occasionally sang in an apple tree near the main entrance to the sanctuary.
- 228. INDIGO BUNTING (Passerina cyanea)

Status: Very rare visitant.

Occurrence: One record. An immature male was seen and heard singing at the A.P.B.S. parking lot on May 31/81 by B. Mactavish and two visiting Massachusetts birders, R. Veit and M. Litchfield.

A marsh-bird survey (Cash et als, 1981) at A.P.B.S. estimated 34 Sora, 41 Pied-billed Grebe, 18 American Coot, 29 Black Terns, and 2 Least Bitterns during the 1981 breeding season.

Year	Blacks*	GWT	BWT	Pin.	R.N.	Wig.	W.D.	Shov.	Others	Tota
1965	299	117	305	7	1	18	-	-	-	747
1966	141	12	346	2	-	3	-	-	-	504
1967	184	0	53	1	132	-	3	-	H.M.1	374
1968	81	11	111	12	11	-	-	-	-	226
1969	379	21	202	51	3	-	1	-	-	657
1970	285	1	28	2	16	-	-	-	-	332
1971	413	0	101	2	8	-	-	-	-	524
1972	168	12	407	44	4	1	4	-	-	640
1973	585	1	285	12	23	10	-	-	-	916
1974	504	72	72	34	8	-	1	-	-	691
1975	367	25	183	52	4	3	-	-	-	634
1976	265	34	193	7	5	-	1	-	-	505
1977	357	9	47	19	23	3	-	3	-	461
1978	305	104	438	89	40	20	5	12	Gad. 4	1017
1979	301	20	56	38	24	6	-	-	Ruddy 1	446
1980	682	43	217	42	8	-	2	-	Gad 1 Rhd	1 996
1981	526	82	73	2	94	9	2	-	H.M.2	790
TOTAL	5842	564	3117	416	404	73	19	15	10	10,460

Table 1. Waterfowl banded at Chignecto National Wildlife Area - Amherst Point and John Lusby Sections, 1965-1981.

\*Includes small numbers of Mallards and Mallard X Black hybrids.

Abbreviations: GWT, Green-winged Teal; BWT, Blue-winged Teal; Pin., Pintail; R.N., Ring-necked Duck; Wig., American Wigeon; W.D., Wood Duck; Shov., Northern Shoveler; H.M., Hooded Merganser; Gad., Gadwall; Rhd., Redhead.

## Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the following individuals who have made the observations on which this report is based: Bill Barrow, Myrtle Bateman, Richard Blacquiere, Gordon Burns, Roger Burrows, Ian Cameron, Kevin Cash, Evelyn Coates, John and Shirley Cohrs, Con Desplanque, Tony Erskine, Gay Hansen, Ron Hounsell, Bob Lamberton, Marsha Litchfield, Bruce Mactavish, Keith McAloney, Ian and Jamie McLaren, William McNutt, Eric Mills, Al Smith, Francis and Edgar Spalding, Stuart Tingley, John Van Zoost, and Dick Veit. Thanks to each and every one.

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