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From: **Phil Brown**

Date: Mon, Jun 2, 2014 at 6:34 AM

Subject: [MASSBIRD] Re: Yellow-nosed Albatross - Seven Seas Whale Watch - 17 miles east of Gloucester - 06-01-14

To: MassBird <massbird@theworld.com>

A bit more information from Jay Frontierro about the Yellow-nosed Albatross seen yesterday on the Seven Seas Whale Watch.

Images can be seen on their blog at: <http://gloucester.7seaswhalewatch.com/whale-sightings-report-june-1-2014/>

Jay asked me to post this for documentation purposes knowing what a rare sighting this is for Massachusetts waters and knowing the odds of seeing the bird again are fairly slim.

Jay can be reached at sjfrontierro@yahoo.com if further documentation is needed.

"The exact location was lat/long = 42 35.96/70 16.84 at 16:05.  This puts the birds on the northeast side of Tillies Bank where there were many schools of Mackerel visible at the surface (and no doubt why there were 2 Humpback, 3 Fin, and a few Minke whales in the area).

The bird was moving slowly west while being harassed by Herring and GBB gulls (why? It was strange to see gulls so intent on harassing the Albatross. It was as if they sensed it was a stranger. Just weird IMHO).

I spotted the bird and recognized it as an albatross species from about a half mile away. At that point I got on the microphone to tell people that we were leaving the whales to pursue the bird. We followed it as it was harassed by gulls for about 5 minutes until it landed on the water. I was able to get most people onboard "on" the bird as we approached it sitting in the water which is why we were able to collect so many good photos. I do have a few fuzzy photos of the sitting bird, but the take-off/flight photos are the best/most diagnostic.

Let me know if you need any more details.

SO exciting!

Thanks,

Jay"

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Enjoy,

Phil Brown

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