

2005

## Alaska Bird Observatory: Denali Institute Migration Station

Tim Walker

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Western Bird Banding Association. Of these, 49 stations were operated by interns under contract to IBP. The stations were distributed in the Mount Baker, Wenatchee, Umatilla, Willamette, Siuslaw, and Fremont National forests, on the Flathead Reservation of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and in Yosemite National Park. The remaining 182 MAPS stations were operated by independent banders and were distributed throughout the WBBA area. We are always very grateful for the contributions of these independent participants, without whom the MAPS program would not be possible. For readers not familiar with the MAPS program, or other programs

sponsored by IBP, I invite you to visit our website at: <http://www.birdpop.org>. We are always looking for additional stations to add to the MAPS network. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in the MAPS Program.

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## Western Station Reports

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### Golden Gate Raptor Observatory Fall 2005

The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory's season was very interesting this year with a couple of new species records for banding. We banded 56 Merlins, almost double our previous season high of 29, set last year. Also surpassed was our 2003 Sharp-shinned Hawk record of 628-- 676 Sharpies were banded this season. And we banded three Broad-winged Hawks this year, equaling our highest total ever for this species. We banded our second highest total ever for Cooper's Hawks at 686. On the down side was the total for Red-tails at 221, the second lowest in 22 years of banding. For the second time in our history we failed to band any Northern Harriers, a species for which we normally band about 10 to 15 individuals.

There were just over 100 volunteer banders with us this season, as well as three seasonal interns.

See the WBBA's website Photo Gallery for a great photo of long-time volunteer John Keane with one of the Broad-winged Hawks. To learn more about GGRO, visit the website at: <http://www.ggro.org/>

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### Alaska Bird Observatory Denali Institute Migration Station

The Denali Institute Migration Station (DIMS) is a cooperative project between the Denali Institute, Alaska Natural History Association, Denali National Park Wilderness Centers, and the Alaska Bird Observatory. The station is located in Denali National Park & Preserve, along Moose Creek approximately 3 km east of Kantishna. During the 2005 banding season (27 Jul – 17 Sep), the crew banded 2,127 individuals of 31 species during 3,552 net hours. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were the most abundant (29%), followed by Wilson's Warblers (23%), White-crowned Sparrows (9%), and Dark-eyed Juncos (7%). Capture rates for Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Northern Waterthrush, Fox Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco were the highest of all eight years that this station has operated. Conversely, capture rates for Alder Flycatcher and Black-capped Chickadee were the lowest of all years. Interesting captures included two American Three-toed Woodpeckers, two Olive-sided Flycatchers, a Western Wood-Pewee, and our first-ever Sharp-shinned Hawks (2). Approximately 250 guests from Camp Denali and North Face Lodge visited the banding station this year. Special thanks to the Denali Institute for funding this project.

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