

2006

## 2006 Annal Meeting Notice

North American Bird Bander

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The 2005 fall banding season results were outstanding: the number of new birds banded was the second highest for all 36 years of operation at this location. Fall 2005 also ranked second in new birds per 100 net-hours.

Several species were banded in new high numbers: Red-eyed Vireo (73 banded vs an average of only 22 per fall for the previous 35 years), Black-capped Chickadee (70 vs 30), Hermit Thrush (26 vs 8), and Golden-crowned Kinglet (49 vs 12). Ovenbirds were not in their highest ever numbers, but 35 (all HY) were banded vs an average of 15 per fall in the previous 35 years). Ninety-six warblers of 19 species made up to 14% of all birds banded, a smaller portion than usual, and 157 sparrows of eight species made up a near-average 22% of the total. The top five species caught this year made up half of the birds banded. Overall 72% of the birds banded were HY, compared with 62% a year ago. No new species were recorded.

There were 12 days on which more than 20 new birds were banded, including two days of over 40 birds. Almost half of the 710 total were caught in October and early November.

Temperatures were above average through October. August (4.3° F warmer than normal) and September (4.9° F warmer than normal) were near or below normal in rainfall, and banding conditions were good. October, however, brought record rainfall statewide, the most for any month in over 100 years, and 8" above normal in this region. (I measured 12" near my net lanes between 7 Oct and 15 Oct!) High winds also kept nets furled on a number of October days, but frosts did not interfere until the last week of the month.

There were very few fruits on arrowwood, but the other shrubs among the net lanes seemed to have normal quantities of fruits.

A few notes on the 36 years of fall banding at this location: 19,476 birds of 106 species have been banded for this project. Five species made up a third of all birds banded. The most common species made up about a third of all birds banded. The most common species was the Gray Catbird, caught in the most consistent numbers from year to year with a total of 1747 banded (9% of all bandings). Slate-colored Junco was second at 8% of the total, White-throated Sparrow third at 7%, Ruby-crowned Kinglet fourth at 6%, and Black-capped Chickadee fifth at 5%.



## *Inland Regional News*

***Inland Bird Banding Association***

**Founded 1922**

### **Inland Bird Banding Association Annual Conference**

IBBA's 2006 annual conference will be held on **22 – 24 Sep 2006** in Tellico Plains, Tennessee, just 45 miles southeast of Knoxville. Registration will be held Friday evening followed by a reception, orientation and welcome by representatives of Cherokee National Forest. Activities will be centered in the Tellico Plains Community Center and will include a Saturday morning field trip to

Whigg Meadow Bird Banding Station followed by a box lunch on the meadow.

A Saturday afternoon paper session will precede the evening barbeque banquet featuring hummingbird expert Bob Sargent who will speak on the role of bird banding in the study of hummingbirds. Bob and Martha Sargent are well-

known for their work with hummingbirds, regularly banding about 800 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds annually. Additionally, they have banded several hundred wintering hummingbirds of several species across the eastern United States in recent years. His program promises to be both entertaining and informative.

The nearest airport, McGhee Tyson Airport, is at Knoxville and is about a one-hour drive from Tellico Plains.

Registration information was sent to IBBA members in May. Complete information on lodging, transportation, and meeting locations will be mailed to registrants upon receipt of registration.

For registration information or if you would like to present at the paper session, contact:

**David Vogt, [dfv@tnaqua.org](mailto:dfv@tnaqua.org)  
or (423) 785-4036.**



Founded in 1925

# *Western Regional News*

**Western Bird Banding Association 2006 Annual Meeting  
September 14 -17, 2006 at the Rio Grande Nature Center  
in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Hosted by Rio Grande Bird Research, Inc.**

## **The Setting**

All meeting activities will be at the Rio Grande Nature Center, a state park and a wildlife refuge within the city of Albuquerque. The Nature Center covers approximately 270 acres of woods (bosque), meadows, ponds, wetlands and farmland within the greater river complex of the middle Rio Grande Valley. The Rio Grande Nature Center is about halfway along the Paseo del Bosque trail that runs approximately 16 miles in length from Alameda Boulevard to Rio Bravo Boulevard. Natural surface trails run along both sides of the river and a number of unmarked trails wind throughout the bosque.

There is great access to a variety of habitat types from Albuquerque (desert shrub, pinyon-juniper through ponderosa pine and Engelmann spruce)

giving birders wonderful opportunities to observe a host of species. The Nature Center is at an elevation of 4,900 feet, and within an hour you can be at the top of the Sandia Mountains, elevation 10,500 feet.

The Nature Center is accessed easily from the interstate and there are many hotels within three miles of the Nature Center, near Albuquerque's Old Town, a favorite spot for those that like to shop or look for southwestern art. There are a number of galleries, museums and restaurants in the Old Town area.

## **Meeting Activities**

The annual meeting will offer full- and half-day field trips (see below). Other planned activities include a banding workshop on passerine molting patterns