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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) Fall 2005 St Andrews Bird Banding Station

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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region I (Northeast) – Fall 2005 Report

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Region I Coordinator
Wing Island Banding Station
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The regular Northeast Station reports are represented here. We welcome back Laurentian Mountains this year, although netting activities for 2005 had to be curtailed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Weather played a major role at a number of stations, due to the heavy rains and effects of hurricanes during the first two weeks in October. However, the numbers of birds banded as well as b/100nh was up across the region in 2005 from the previous year.

Highlights from the region included a first Pileated Woodpecker for St. Andrews; highest total of Hermit Thrushes ever for both Block Island and Island Beach; returning Fox Sparrows to Wing Island (not seen since 2000), and a first state record of a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in November; and Baltimore Orioles and Blue-headed Vireos added to Bon Portage Island's top ten list for the first time. Although Appledore did not handle any new species, a Belted Kingfisher (1) is becoming a common capture each fall. On a dimmer note, Laurentian Mountains reported a steady decline of warblers from 1999 and not one Red-eyed Vireo banded there this year.

SW-Laurentian Mountains **455-0743**
Wentworth-Nord, QC
Peter H. Homann, bander

I could not report any banding results for 2004 because illness had prevented me from visiting our retreat in Canada. I was glad, therefore, to be able to resume my activities in 2005. The weather generally was favorable for netting because the temperatures were moderate and no day was lost

entirely due to rain, but there was more wind than I would have liked. Unfortunately, obligations back home forced us to return home in August, and injuries from a bad fall (unrelated to banding) restricted netting to the shore of the lake at our cottage for two weeks, leaving the lanes in the understory of mixed woods behind the cottage unused.

Because of the greatly curtailed netting activities, I contemplated not submitting a report at all but decided to provide a brief account anyway, mainly to report the unusual scarcity of warblers that was evident from visual observations and from the number of individuals that I banded this year. They comprised only about 28% of the total. For comparison, I extracted from previous years' records the numbers for the same nets used this year and the same days of operation. It turned out that the contribution of warblers to the totals for 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 was 67%, 64%, 62%, 52% and 53%, respectively. I hope that this declining trend will not be sustained. As another piece of information, we note that not a single Red-eyed Vireo was banded. The only individual captured of this species was a female that had been banded as an after-hatching-year bird in 2002 and was netted also in 2003. Any attempts to explain my disappointing experience would be mere speculation. However, with regard to the local bird population, I cannot help reporting that feral cats made their debut in the area a few years ago.

Finally, I thank the Gascon and Shelly families for the continuing permission to set up nets on their properties.

St. Andrews Bird Banding Station **450-0670**
New Brunswick, NJ
Tracey Dean, bander
Assistants: Peter Doherty and Joanna Hubbard

The 2005 fall migration-monitoring project started on 24 Aug and the station's 14 mist nets were opened everyday that weather permitted, until 29

Table 1. AFR Region I - Northeast Fall 2005 Summary

	Lauren- tians PQ	St. Andrews NB	Bon Portage Is. NS	Seal Is. NS	Appledore Is. ME	Wing Is. MA	Block Is. RI	Island Beach SP, NJ
First Day	24 Jul	6 Aug	16 Aug	25 Sep	15 Aug	12 Aug	7 Sep	16 Aug
Last Day	23 Aug	5 Nov	27 Oct	13 Oct	24 Sep	13 Nov	13 Nov	19 Nov
Days Oper.	28	54	55	13	41	24	50	63
No. Nets Used	2-6	5-14	10-15	10-19	10-?	13-26	NA	3-15.75
Total Net Hours	575	3229	4102	683	4507	2367.57	4063	2143.6
# Traps Used	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	NA	0
% of Total Caught in Traps	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	NA	0
Birds Banded 2004	NA	1223	NA	NA	1565	1110	1342	2562
Birds Banded 2005	55	1232	1254	69	2126	1434	2051	3926
Diff Species 2004	NA	57	NA	NA	72	58	76	77
Diff Species 2005	21	55	73	20	83	69	73	80
Largest Daily Catch	7	53	119	11	185	213	184	482
Date of Largest Daily Catch	1 Aug	22 Sep	18 Oct	3 Oct	24 Sep	21 Oct	19 Oct	20 Oct
Most Com. Species on Best Day	BCCH	BCCH	NA	NA	WTSP	SOSP	MYWA	WTSP
Which was What % Total on Best Day	57%	58%	NA	NA	14.60%	24%	27%	32.30%
Date with Most Species Diversity	NA	2 Sep	NA	NA	22 Sep	16 Oct	NA	16 Oct
# of Species on That Day	NA	20	NA	NA	32	25	NA	28
Birds/100nh 2004	NA	37	NA	NA	33.6	54	26	131.5
Birds/100nh 2005	10	38	30.5	10	47.2	61	50	183.1
Overall % Hatch Year (***) 2004	NA	82%	NA	NA	93%	91%	NA	75.50%
Overall % Hatch Year (***) 2005	57%	84%	92%	83%	90%	91%	NA	88.10%
% HY (**)								88.40%

(**) - HY% calculated as number of HY/total number of known-age birds.

(***) - HY% calculated as number of HY/total number of birds banded.

Table 2. Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFT Region 1, Fall 2005.

	Laurentians PQ	% HY	St. Andrews NB	Bon Portage Is. NS	Appledore Is. ME	% HY	Wing Is. MA	% HY	Block Is. RI	Island Beach SP, NJ	% HY for all birds
1	11 BCCH	64%	144 BLPW	156 BLPW	300 REVI	91%	409 GRCA(1)	86%	190 GCKI(2)	553 WTSP(2)	89%
2	6 SOSP	50%	135 BCCH	80 TRFL	215 NOWA	80%	208 MYWA(2)	96%	190 HETH	547 SOSP(9)	95%
3	6 TRFL	80%	118 AMGO(2)	77 REVI	160 COYE	96%	121 SOSP(3)	95%	138 SCJU(5)	380 GRCA(4)	96%
4	4 CAWA	100%	79 WTSP(1)	71 GCKI	157 AMRE	95%	103 BCCH(4)	89%	131 MYWA(3)	369 GCKI(1)	83%
5	4 HETH	75%	74 MAWA(8)	67 NOWA	102 BLPW	79%	62 AMGO(5)	87%	108 BRGR(5)	263 MYWA(3)	92%
6			63 SOSP(4)	64 MYWA	81 RBNU	86%	60 SWSP(8)	100%	96 REVI	242 COYE(8)	91%
7			54 COYE(5)	47 BHVI	72 GRCA	92%	44 RCKI	93%	92 RCKI(8)	232 SWSP(10)	91%
8			46 BTNW(3)	46 BAOR	72 BAWW	92%	44 NOCA(7)	82%	60 AMRO	210 SCJU(6)	93%
9			44 AMRE	44 AMRE	62 SOSP	95%	39 COYE(6)	87%	54 EATO(9)	145 BRGR(5)	81%
10			40 GCKI(7)	43 COYE	60 YWAR	98%	33 GCKI	94%	54 WTSP	93 HETH	93%

() = Top 10 order from previous year.