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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge) – Fall 2005

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It is a pleasure to have Rick Knight's Roan Mountain report after a year's lapse. Jim Smith was on dialysis all fall so there is no report from Rock Point, but we are very happy to report that, after a successful kidney transplant in January 2006, Jim was back banding in fall 2006!

Overall, results were up at every station in the Region III region, with the exception of Selkirk, where John Miles' broken foot limited coverage on 16 days (only!), and reduced the number of days of coverage from 137 to 109. Birds/100nh was up at eight out of the 10 reporting stations.

The 'best day' occurred on 11,12,13 Sep at Mt. Nebo, Roan Mountain and Lewiston, and as late as 27 Oct at Powdermill, while the best day was between 8 and 14 Oct at Presque Isle, Long Point, Selkirk, and Ruthven.

Hurricanes and tropical depressions had a major impact on banding results at many stations. The edge of Katrina passed through Allegheny Front on 31 Aug followed by good westerly winds resulting in 646 birds banded on 2-3 Sep. The hurricanes and the associated rains that devastated parts of the southern US stayed south of Lake Erie, but tended to block the migration south resulting in unprecedented numbers of passerines being grounded in southern Ontario starting around the end of the first week in October and lasting for 8 to 10 days. Banders on the north shore of Lake Erie commented that long-time birders could not remember seeing so many migrants in their favorite spots at one time. Long Point reported an **average** of 300 birds per day in October! By 20 Oct, they thought migration was coming to an end,

and then the chickadees began! On 21 Oct, 348 of 368 birds banded were chickadees!

The narratives from all 10 reporting stations make interesting reading. Long Point experienced an unprecedented flight of warblers from 18-20 Sep, including an amazing 197 Blackpolls banded and 275 released unbanded at the 'tip' on 20 Sep. Bilateral gynandromorphic birds were banded at two stations: a Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Powdermill and a Black-throated Blue Warbler at Allegheny Front. The Black-throated Blue Warbler banded by Bob Dean had a wing chord on the male side 4mm longer than the female side, with both wing chords being an average length for the representative sex of this species.

As always, thanks to everyone who contributes to the Region III AFR report!

We lost two dedicated migration banders during the past months. Don Clark, a bander from Franklinville, NY, passed away at his home in Florida on 7 Jan 1007. Don was the AFR Coordinator for many years. He is survived by his wife and banding helpmate, Jane Clark.

And, John Miles died on 14 Dec 2006 (see memoriam on page 206).

We will all miss these two exceptional banders.

Table 1. AFR III Fall 2005 Summary

	Lewiston NY	Ruthven Park ON	Selkirk ON	Long Point ON	Presque Isle PA	Powdermill PA	Mt Nebo MD	Allegheny Front WV	Roan MT TN/NC
First Day/Last Day	9/1 - 10/18	9/1 - 11/5	7/2 - 11/19	7/28 - 11/15	7/9 - 10/30	8/1 - 12/4	9/2 - 10/15	8/13 - 10/16	9/6 - 10/11
Days Operated	11	55	109	109	27	104	28	65	22
No. Nets Used	11 to 15	20	up to 20	0 to 60	5 to 12	5 to 70	13 to 16	24 to 30	7
Total Net Hours	804	5183	11,844	12,328	1188	20,435	1945	8549.8	369
% Caught in traps	0.0%	na	3.6%	10.3%	na	na	0%	0%	0%
Lgst Daily Catch	31 on 9/13	271 on 10/10	323 on 10/8	800 on 10/14	214 on 10/14	446 on 10/27	48 on 9/12	510 on 9/17	48 on 9/11
Most Common Best Day	SWTH (23%)	MYWA	MYWA (41%)	GCKI (28%)	GCKI	WTSP (26%)	GRCA (27%)	BLPW (43%)	na
Most Species Diversity	9/13&10/3(16)	na	10/8&10/16(24)	9/27 (46)	9/27 (18)	9/24&10/9 (43)	9/12&9/25 (14)	9/2 & 9/18 (30)	na
No. Banded 2004	240	2567	3850	9787	669	7798	485	4445	452
No. Banded 2005	294	3827	3632	16,798	869	9914	615	5493	502
No. Forms 2004	34	86	93	117	58	110	46	79	42
No. Forms 2005	45	81	88	115	55	111	52	78	34
Birds/100nh 2004	32.6	53.1	22.3	114.4	96.1	28.2	32.6	55.2	126.0
Birds/100nh 2005	36.6	71.7	29.4	123.0	na	48.5	31.6	64.2	136.0
% HY 2004	63%	77%	58%	77%	na	na	77%	79%	na
% HY 2005	82%	na	58%	82%	na	70%	80%	71%	na

Table 2. Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region III, Fall 2005

Lewiston, NY			Ruthven Park, ON		Selkirk, ON		Long Point, ON			Presque Isle, PA		Powdermill, PA			Mt Nebo, MD			Allegheny Front, WV			Roan Mt. TN/NC			
		% HY				% HY		% HY			% HY			% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY				
1	67	SWTH (7)	79	678	AMGO(2)	555	GCKI (1)	NA	1696	MYWA(4)	80	242	GCKI (1)	1302	AMGO (1)	65	122	GRCA (2)	89	1057	BTBW (1)	62	98	TEWA
2	27	GRCA (1)	96	652	MYWA(7)	539	RCKI (2)	NA	1591	GCKI (1)	86	105	RCKI (4)	803	WTSP (2)	52	87	COYE (8)	72	1036	BLPW (3)	62	86	SCJU
3	24	MAWA (2)	88	326	WTSP(4)	478	MYWA(9)	90	1284	RCKI (2)	83	91	WTSP(5)	677	SCJU	44	60	SOSP (9)	88	568	BTNW (2)	86	71	SWTH
4	20	BCCH	60	283	RCKI (1)	186	BCCH	99	1077	WTSP (3)	85	66	GRCA(3)	519	MYWA(3)	79	42	BTBW(7)	86	327	MAWA(6)	74	64	BTBW
5	13	OVEN (8)	85	202	SCJU (2)	170	SCJU (5)	72	900	BLPW	70	45	SWTH	464	PUFI (9)	55	28	MAWA(5)	61	280	CMWA	52	28	GCKI
6	11	WTSP(10)	82	183	PUFI	111	HETH(10)	91	794	BRCR (7)	68	33	GCTH	460	SOSP (7)	67	24	OVEN	91	231	SWTH(10)	80	23	MAWA
7	11	WOTH(6)	100	176	GCKI (6)	99	SOSP (4)	89	744	BCCH	97	32	BRCR	399	GRCA (6)	85	23	EATO	70	205	SCJU (4)	85	20	BBWA
8	11	GCTH	91	147	SOSP(5)	95	WTSP	95	720	SWTH	83	30	WWR (9)	373	BCCH	94	19	SWTH	94	193	COYE (5)	86	13	BHVI
9	10	VEER	90	109	CEDW	86	AMGO	48	577	SCJU (8)	70	25	YWAR	360	RCKI (4)	60	14	WTSP(1)	50	191	TEWA (7)	74	12	RBGR
10	9	MYWA	78	109	BCCH	81	BRCR	77	457	NSWO(6)*	44	22	SCJU (6)	335	MAWA (5)	63	13	INBU	85	178	BLBW	65	11	WOTH

* lure tapes used

(#) position on list last year