

2007

Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2006 Braddock Bay Bird Observatory

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birds of 97 species (plus races, subspecies, color morphs, hybrids, as well as a bilateral gynandromorph) has been banded on the grounds of Crown Point State Historic Site, and we look forward to our 32nd year in 2007.

**Braddock Bay Bird Observatory 431-0774
Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station**

Monroe County, NY

Elizabeth W. Brooks, Compiler

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Banders: Ann Adams, David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Kelly Dockery, Jon Dombrowski, Mark Deutschlander, Chris Gates, Erin Karnatz, Cindy Marino, Robert McKinney, David Semple and John Waud

Banding Assistants: Linda Boutwell, Luke Donius, Virginia Duffy, Paul Fehringer, Pat Lovallo, Rob van der Stricht, and Barb Wagner. Our Field Assistant was Courtney Rawleigh; our Research Assistant, Ryan Kayhart.

The 21st consecutive year of spring migration monitoring at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach banding station was carried out for 50 days beginning 15 Apr and ending on 12 Jun 2006. There were 5,296 birds banded of 96 forms. Thirty-five Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are included in the list of banded birds but an additional 29 female and 15 male Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were captured and released unbanded.

| | <u>%SY</u> | <u>%ASY</u> | <u>%AHY</u> |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1014 Bl-cap.Chickadee | 86.7 | 3.5 | 9.8 |
| 524 Ruby-cr. Kinglet | 53.6 | 14.5 | 31.9 |
| 306 Gray Catbird | 47.7 | 23.4 | 28.9 |
| 298 Magnolia Warbler | 64.3 | 30.0 | 5.7 |
| 261 Yellow Warbler | 63.8 | 24.4 | 11.8 |
| 241 Com. Yellowthr. | 40.1 | 7.8 | 52.1 |
| 231 Amer. Redstart | 54.3 | 34.2 | 11.4 |
| 151 Wh-thr. Sparrow | 66.9 | 7.7 | 25.4 |
| 129 Wilson's Warbler | 68.5 | 14.6 | 16.9 |
| 120 Traill's Flycatcher | 20.3 | 10.8 | 68.9 |

Constant-effort mist netting was carried out using from one to 35 nets. Included in the total were six elevated net assemblies.

There were over 700 recaptures of birds banded at the station. These birds were all measured and weighed again as part of ongoing studies in stopover ecology. Of these recaptures, 70 were birds that returned from a previous season. Noteworthy returns were a European Starling in its seventh year, a Northern Cardinal in its sixth year, and two Common Grackles, a chickadee, robin, and Common Yellowthroat in their fifth year. In addition, a Hairy Woodpecker in its eighth year and a catbird in its fifth year were returns from the MAPS station located about 600 yards from the banding station.

We had a number of interesting foreign recoveries: A Gray Catbird banded on 16 Sep 2002 was found dead in Cheektowaga, NY, on 12 May 2006. A Magnolia Warbler banded at K-MB on 2 Jun 2003 was recaptured and released alive by David Okines at Prince Edward Point, near Kingston, Ontario, on 27 May 2005. A White-throated Sparrow banded on 29 Sep 2004 was found dead in Lac Dumau, Quebec, on 18 May 2005. And a Common Grackle banded on 18 May 2005 was found dead in Charlotte Hall, MD, on 18 Feb 2006.

Five Ruby-crowned Kinglets had orange rather than red crown feathers. Two Black-capped Chickadees had healed (old) tarsus fractures.

A Hermit Thrush, two Magnolia Warblers, and a Song Sparrow were infested with mites; a Gray Catbird had lice; a tick was removed from a Common Yellowthroat and a White-throated Sparrow; and six Yellow Warblers had scaly leg and were released unbanded. A Red-winged Blackbird had an eye infection, which was treated with an ophthalmologic antibiotic. A White-throated Sparrow had a growth on its bill.

Overall, it was a steady, even migration throughout the season with our three biggest days spread out between 27 Apr, 25 and 29 May. The total number of birds banded (5,296) during spring 2006 was the second highest total and well above the mean (3,408) for the past 20 years. Ruby-throated Hummingbird was the only new species; the cumulative total for spring now stands at 139 forms.

There were record high numbers banded of Eastern Wood-Pewee, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Veery, Common Yellowthroat, Fox Sparrow, and Eastern White-crowned Sparrow. On the negative side, Scarlet Tanager was missing after being banded during 16 of the past 20 spring seasons.

The season began with a massive movement of Black-capped Chickadees through the area, with 1,014 banded. The chickadee movement was already well underway when the station opened, with 111 banded on 15 Apr, our first day of operation. There was another surge on 26-27 Apr with 281 banded during those two days.

Mark Deutschlander continued his research on nocturnal migratory orientation of Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, and White-throated Sparrows. Using state-of-the-art listening devices installed at three locations in our field, Stefan Hames and Jim Lowe of the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell recorded the nocturnal vocalizations of migrants each evening during spring.

Cloacal swabbings and feather samples were taken from 100 birds this spring as part of the Avian Influenza Monitoring Program being coordinated by the Landbird Migration Monitoring Network of the Americas (LaMMNA).

Omar Gordillo (Chiapas, Mexico), Ember Jandebeur (Newport, PA), Adam Kneis (N. Java, NY), David Mathiason (Webster, NY), Leanna Twohig (North Chili, NY) and Karen Velas (Woodland Hills, CA) successfully completed our Bander Training Course.

Zach Stone from the Diversified Occupations (DO) program at Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury, VT, served a two-week internship.

We hosted a tour of the banding station as part of the IMBD/Earth Day celebration celebrated at Braddock Bay Park on 22 Apr. An Environmental Science class at Monroe Community College visited the banding station; a boy scout troop visited as did a third grade class from the Calvary Christian School in Farmington, NY. We gave informal banding demonstrations to several

hundred visitors and to students from the Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury, VT, who visited on 23 and 24 May. Members of the Allyn's Creek Garden Club also visited the banding station.

Bob Marcotte held a book signing at the banding station on 13 May for his new book, "Birds of the Genesee."

Thanks to all our faithful volunteers: Nancy Chevalier, Jennifer Cumbo, Jack and Barb Duval, Cricket Fegan, Marilyn Guenther, Gary Herbert, Donna Hilborn, Kathleen Holt, Peggy Keller, John Lehr, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Greg Onufryk, Jesse Roberts, Lee Schofield, Jeanne Skelly, Ruth Stork, and Scott and Theresa Wolcott.

Thanks also to the four Kodak 'Day of Caring' volunteers—Steve Cox, Dave Killius, Julie A. Lewis and Ray Mack—for tirelessly spreading gravel on our trails; to Bob Mulvihill and Adrienne Leppold of Powdermill (PA) Nature Reserve for the donation of used nets; to Heather Bradstreet for gloves and hand sanitizer; to Carol Radford for her patient data entry; to Richard Carstenen for GPSing our nets and net lanes; and to Steve Singer for help with habitat maintenance.

Special appreciation to Bob and Charlene Reed for providing housing to visiting banders, interns, and students; and to Bill Kaiser and the Board of the Genesee Land Trust for use of their land.

Ruthven Park

425-0795

Cayuga, Haldimand County, ON

Bander: Rick Ludkin

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Chief Assistants: Loretta Mousseau, Brian Pomfret

This marks the eleventh spring banding season at Ruthven Park. We started on 1 Apr and banded/monitored almost continuously for the next 59 days—finishing on 31 May. Although we did not open nets on days of seriously inclement weather, and opened fewer nets in poor conditions (e.g., high winds—we are especially susceptible to westerly winds), we would do a census and try to get a sense of the types and