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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region I (Northeast) Fall 2005 Island Beach State Park

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been a 200+ day. The best species diversity of 26 species was on 17 Sep. We added six new species for the station this fall: a Least Sandpiper, captured in one of our marsh nets, and Dickcissel, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Screech-Owl and the Black-chinned and Rufous hummingbirds. Twenty species of warblers were banded: American Redstart, Blackpoll, Black-and-white, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Common Yellowthroat, Connecticut, Magnolia, Mourning, Myrtle, Nashville, Northern Waterthrush, Orange-crowned, Ovenbird, Pine, Prairie, Palm (both Yellow and Western), Wilson's, Yellow, and Yellow-breasted Chat. We banded only three species of vireos: Red-eyed, Yellow-throated, and Blue-headed. Thrushes banded include Hermit, Gray-cheeked, and Veery.

An advanced bander workshop was held during the week of 20-25 Aug. Five participants sharpened their banding skills. Banding demonstrations were held on occasional Fridays in the summer for the museum campers. Another successful banding demo was held on 16 Sep for the Brookline/Cape Cod bird clubs.

Many thanks to bander Gretchen Putonen and assistant Carolyn Kennedy for all their time and effort this fall. Many thanks also to those assistants mentioned above for all their help. This station could not be run without the financial support of the French Foundation and the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History allowing us to house our banding lab at their facility.

Island Beach State Park 395-0740
New Jersey

Banders: *Mary Doscher, Jennifer Hanley, Ted Hicks, Glenn Mahler, Robert McKinney, Robert Pantle, Robert Yunick*

Assistants: Marge Appleby, Laura Barry, Rebecca Beer Laboy, Chita McKinney, Martha O'Rourke, Alex Tongas

Submitted by Glenn R. Mahler, compiler

During the fall 2006 banding season, seven banders operated banding stations at five locations at Island Beach State Park, between 9 Aug and 25 Nov. One or more of those stations was in operation on 64 days during that 108-day period. There were eight banding days in August, 19 in September, 27 in October and 10 in November.

There was one day with five of the stations in operation simultaneously, two days with four stations active, five days with three stations active, 25 days with two stations active and the remaining 31 days with only a single station active. In the discussion that follows, when referring to prior-years' data, prior-year averages are based on the nineteen-year period 1987-2005.

Our total of 5,557 birds banded was 103% of long-term average, the first time we have been above average since 1994. However, our 127.4 b/100nh was 82% of average, reflecting a long-term downward trend in our capture rate.

The following table summarizes the best days of the season (>200 banded, >25 species or bp/100nh >350).

Date (# stations operating)	# Species	# Birds/100nh	# Birds
10 Oct (1)	21	324	304.2
16 Oct (2)	18	238	259.4
22 Oct (5)	32	1,031	450.8*
26 Oct (4)	20	349	337.9
27 Oct (2)	17	224	215.3
3 Nov (2)	13	334	563.7**

* highest species total and highest number banded

** highest capture rate

The season got off to a lackluster start, with no major flight days. Most of the season's migration seemed to be lagging about a week behind usual in the timing of migration. Late October into early November provided the best flights of the season, with the best capture rate for the season actually occurring rather unexpectedly on 3 Nov.

Birds of note this year included a Wilson's Snipe, eight No. Saw-whet Owls, and an incredible 444 Hermit Thrushes. The Hermit Thrush total almost triples last year's all time high of 135; and, in fact, even the 197 of this species captured on 3 Nov alone exceeded the previous season-high total. Also of note (but not banded) was a first year Great Blue Heron that caused a great commotion when it blundered into and knocked down a net that was half filled with small landbirds!

Among the 20 species that are most frequently captured at Island Beach in the fall, only four had average capture rates this season: Red-eyed Vireo, Hermit Thrush, Black-and-white Warbler, and White-throated Sparrow. Hermit Thrush was above 2 SD of average, the other three only a few percent above average. Exceptional on the low end were Eastern Phoebe, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Towhee and Song Sparrow that were captured at about half of their average rates, plus Slate-colored Junco at 38%, and Palm Warbler at

only 17%. Among species that are not in our "top 20," Carolina Chickadee, Carolina Wren, American Robin, and Northern Cardinal also were captured at about double the usual rates. These last four species breed locally at this banding site and except for Robin are not highly migratory. Their strong showings probably are indicative of good breeding seasons locally.



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

IBBA Annual Report of Birds Banded, 2006

Summary of banding reported from the IBBA region for 2006 with USFWS/CWS bands.

This is the fifth consecutive year of this report. Fifty active banders reported banding 91,315 individuals of 343 species/forms. This ties for the most species/forms reported by this region, and the total number of birds reported banded is about 10% less than last year. We received no reports from North Dakota and South Dakota. Texas banding represented 30% of the banding total and Ohio 22%. The numbers of reported banded birds increased in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

The most frequently banded bird was one of the smallest: 13,535 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were banded. In second place is one of the larger species: Canada Geese with 6008 individuals banded. Other species commonly banded include Purple Martin in third place with 3839 individuals banded, Yellow Warbler fourth with 3256, American Goldfinch with 2915, White-throated Sparrow with

2791, Gray Catbird with 2620, Black-chinned Hummingbird with 2367, Tennessee Warbler with 2334, and White-winged Dove with 2331.

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