North American Bird Bander

Volume 33 | Issue 2 Article 11

2008

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region I (Northeast) Fall 2007

Sue Finnegan

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) – Fall 2007 Report

Sue Finnegan, **Coordinator**
Wing Island Banding Station
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
896 Main St.
Brewster, MA 02631

We welcome a new contributor to our reports (fall summary only, no narrative) this year, Joppa Flats Banding Station at the Parker River National Wildlife Reserve in Newbury, MA. We welcome back the fall report from Atlantic Bird Observatory and also Manomet Bird Observatory after many years' hiatus.

Weather did not play a major role this year as it has in previous years. More northern species showed up due to food shortages and many stations reported greater numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches, Purple Finches, and other winter species. Some stations reported a continued downward trend in the numbers of captured birds, but a few stations had a better-than-average year.

Highlights from the region included a first Eastern Towhee for St. Andrews, approximately 1300 American Pipits observed on Bon Portage Island, a partially albino Magnolia Warbler at Appledore, a single Bay-breasted Warbler not seen since 2000 and greater numbers of Connecticut Warbler and Hooded Warblers at Manomet, a MacGillivary's Warbler at Wing Island, a Blue Grosbeak, and Northern Saw-whet Owls at Island Beach.

Table 1. AFR Region 1 - Northeast Fall 2007 Summary

	Laurentians PQ	St. Andrews NB	Bon Portage Is. NS	Seal Island NS	Appledore Island ME
First Day	23 Jul	3 Aug	16 Aug	15 Aug	16 Aug
Last Day	22 Sep	3 Nov	27 Oct	21 Oct	23 Sep
Days Operated	60	56	56	46	39
No Nets Used	3-6	6-14	8-15	8-17	
Total Net Hours	1169	2971	3307	2716	4412
# Traps Used	0	0	0	0	0
% of Total Caught in Traps	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
# Birds Banded 2006	315	918	NA	NA	1492
# Birds Banded 2007	**219**	**1094**	**1492**	**769**	**1315**
Different Species 2006	41	55	NA	NA	73
Different Species 2007	**36**	**59**	**67**	**60**	**67**
Largest Daily Catch	13	99	134	47	118
Largest Daily Catch Date	17 Sep	8 Oct	8 Oct	8 Oct	13 Sep
Most Common Species on Best Day	MYWA	AMGO	MYWA	YPWA	BAOR
Which was What % Total on BD	62%	50%	NA	NA	28%
Date with Most Species Diversity	18 Aug	30 Sep	30 Sep	7 Oct	13 Sep
# of Species on that Day	9	20	-	-	27
Birds/100nh 2006	23	31	NA	NA	35
Birds/100nh 2007	**20**	**37**	**45**	**28**	**30**
Overall % HY (***) 2006	79%	83%	NA	NA	93%
Overall % HY (***) 2007	**59%**	**84%**	**96%**	**90%**	**91%**
% Hatch Year (**)	-	-	-	-	-

(***) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total # of birds banded.
(**) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total # of known-age birds.

Table 1 (cont'd.). AFR Region 1 - Northeast Fall 2007 Summary				
	Joppa Flats, MA	**Manomet MA**	**Wing Island MA**	**Island Beach SP NJ**
First Day	30 Aug	15 Aug	9 Aug	19 Aug
Last Day	2 Nov	15 Nov	14 Nov	26 Nov
Days Operated	59	62	38	56
No Nets Used	10	11 - 50	13 - 34	1 - 40
Total Net Hours	5326	31,270	3977	3725.6
# Traps Used	0	0	1	0
% of Total Caught in Traps	NA	NA	3%	NA
# Birds Banded 2006	1084	2005	1788	5558
# Birds Banded 2007	**1200**	**2352**	**1711**	**2952**
Different Species 2006	62	78	70	86
Different Species 2007	**70**	**80**	**77**	**83**
Largest Daily Catch	67	126	135	449
Largest Daily Catch Date	30 Sep	9 Oct	14 Oct	14 Oct
Most Common Species on Best Day	WTSP	MYWA	MYWA	SOSP
Which was What % Total on BD	33%	27%	57%	23%
Date with Most Species Diversity	30 Sep	9 Oct	1 Oct	30 Sep
# of Species on that Day	19	23	23	35
Birds/100nh 2006	26	6.7	65	128
Birds/100nh 2007	**23**	**7.5**	**43**	**79**
Overall % HY (***) 2006	89%	90%	93%	82%
Overall % HY (***) 2007	**81%**	**71%**	**90%**	**82%**
% Hatch Year (**)	-	-	-	86%

(***) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total # of birds banded.
(**) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total # of known-age birds.

Table 2. Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region I - Northeast, Fall 2007											
	Laurentians, PQ			**St. Andrews, NB**		**Bon Portage Is., NS**			**Appledore Is., ME**		
	Species	**Number**	**% HY**	**Species**	**Number**	**Species**	**Number**	**% HY**	**Species**	**Number**	**% HY**
1.	BCCH (3)	52	65	AMGO (6)	238	MYWA	232	94	NOWA (2)	127	83
2.	BLJA	27	70	BCCH (7)	144	BLPW	124	88	RBNU	124	76
3.	MYWA (1)	25	64	WTSP (1)	136	TRFL	112	98	REVI (1)	97	94
4.	AMGO (9)	17	0	MAWA (2)	39	REVI	90	99	CEDW (4)	96	90
5.	RBNU	11	55	REVI	37	BAWW	83	100	BAOR	90	100
6.	SOSP (4)	9	89	RCKI (9)	37	WTSP	74	93	AMRE (5)	67	100
7.	WTSP	8	50	GCKI (5)	35	AMRE	52	93	GRCA (3)	66	98
8.	BAWW (7)	6	67	COYE (3)	32	NOWA	51	93	COYE (6)	59	98
9.	NAWA (10)	6	67	SCJU	31	BCCH	45	92	PUFI	44	86
10.	HETH	5	60	SOSP (4)	26	BRCR	42	97	SOSP	44	89

( ) = Top 10 order from previous year.

Table 2 (cont'd). Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region I - Northeast, Fall 2007												
	Joppa Flats, MA		Manomet, MA			Wing Island, MA			Island Beach SP, NJ			
	Species	Number	Species	Number	% HY	Species	Number	% HY	Species	Number	% HY for known-age birds	% HY for all birds
1.	GRCA	277	GRCA	500	95	GRCA (2)	449	93	GRCA	306	73	72
2.	WTSP	145	BCCH	431	31	MYWA (1)	328	93	WTSP	290	75	74
3.	GCKI	78	MYWA	222	84	SOSP (3)	165	94	GCKI	265	79	80
4.	MYWA	63	ETTI	197	28	AMGO (4)	90	76	SOSP	247	99	91
5.	RCKI	61	WTSP	99	84	BCCH (6)	70	90	BRCR	205	94	73
6.	BRCR	56	AMRE	66	99	COYE (5)	62	89	RCKI	195	86	73
7.	SCJU	55	BLJA	58	79	RTHU	52	54	COYE	163	87	87
8.	COYE	49	REVI	53	100	NOCA (8)	45	98	SWSP	153	93	93
9.	SOSP	36	RCKI	49	27	SWSP	37	95	MYWA	135	84	84
10.	HETH	35	NOCA	46	75	REVI (7)	31	100	BTBW	93	92	90
10.									AMRE	93	95	95
( ) = Top 10 order from previous year.												

SW-Laurentian Mountains **455-0743**
Wentworth-Nord, Quebec
***Peter H. Homann* (bander)**

As usual, I operated nets at the shore of a lake between shrubs and young trees and along an unpaved road in the understory of mixed woods. Unfortunately, my contributions to the Atlantic Flyway Review may become increasingly irrelevant because of the small numbers of long-distance migrants I have been able to capture recently. The trend continued in 2007. Thrushes and Red-eyed Vireos were scarce because of a poor berry crop, but warblers were quite rare also: only 59 individuals of 13 species were banded, 25 of these having been Myrtle Warblers. The low numbers of captured warblers I have been concerned about in recent years can only in part be explained with the loss of one netting lane when it had become inaccessible four years ago. Another contributing factor could be a small clearing (approximately 50 m x 50 m) near two of my netting lanes along the road that formed as the result of recent windstorms and subsequent human action. I also have to take into account the bird feeder that my family put up at the cottage in 2003 approximately 12 m from the two netting lanes at the lake. Being assured of this food supply, Black-capped Chickadees have no need to make wide-ranging foraging excursions, thereby depriving warblers of the opportunity to join them in roving mixed flocks. Consistent with this scenario is that in the nets at the lake and nearby woods I usually captured only single warblers. The exception was the Myrtle Warbler, which typically associates in single-species groups. I must point out, however, that warblers have been a rather rare sight also elsewhere in the area in late summer of recent years.

The situation I have just described is also reflected in the listing of the ten most commonly banded species. The table shows that six of the top seven species were in some way "feeder birds," either directly or as beneficiaries of the scraps that had fallen to the ground.

St. Andrews Bird Banding Station 450-0670
New Brunswick, Canada
Banders: *Tracey Dean* (compiler), *James Junda, Brian Dalzell*
Assistants: Alain Clavette and Andre Cormier

The 2007 fall migration-monitoring project started on 21 Aug and the Station's 14 mist nets were opened, whenever possible, until 3 Nov. September was mainly sunny with calm winds and only two days were lost to rain. October was stormier and nets were open on 17 days.