

2010

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge)- Fall 2009 Presque Isle State Park and Erie Bluffs State Park

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Recommended Citation

Sargent, Sarah (2010) "Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge)- Fall 2009 Presque Isle State Park and Erie Bluffs State Park," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 35 : Iss. 4 , Article 14.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol35/iss4/14>

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The fall season officially started on 15 Aug at Old Cut, the Tip and Breakwater. New records for the Long Point area are a Black-throated Gray Warbler at Point Ryerse on 11 Oct and a *Selasphorus* (Rufous or Allen's) hummingbird species on 7 Sep.

Raptor banding this fall was not exceptional with 77 Sharp-shinned, 4 Cooper's, 4 Red-tailed hawks, 1 American Kestrel, and 3 Merlins banded. Northern Saw-whet Owl migration monitoring began at Old Cut and the Tip on 1 Oct, respectively, ending on 7 and 15 Nov. There were 30 nights of coverage at Old Cut and 12 at the Tip. A total of 421 Northern Saw-whet Owls was banded, up from the 299 banded in 2008.

Thirty-eight volunteers, representing eight countries, logged over 7000 field hours collecting migration data on nearly 270 species and banding 13,195 birds of 130 species and forms. This is an increase from 9663 birds banded of 126 species in 2008. LPBO had 107 days of coverage, yielding 12,700 net hours with a catch rate of 103 b/100nh. Twelve ground traps, four J-traps and two Heligoland traps contributed 9.8% of the catch (17.45% lower than the spring).

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Despite the rain and wind, this fall proved to be a successful banding season. Banding was conducted at three locations: two at Presque Isle State Park and one at Erie Bluffs State Park. In total, 1,231 birds, of 71 different species, were processed over

the course of 53 netting days (35.96 b/100nh). Of these birds, 1,105 were new captures and 126 were recaptures. The most prolific bird of the season, however, was the Myrtle Warbler captured only at Fry's Landing. Species banded this season that are of note included: three Purple Finches at Niagara Boat Launch, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Northern Flicker (orange morph) at Fry's Landing, and an American Woodcock at Erie Bluffs State Park. Special thanks goes out to the 124 visitors and 19 volunteers who assisted us in the field this banding season!

Powdermill Nature Reserve 400-0791
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Banders: Andrew C. Vitz, Mike Lanzone, Robert S. Mulvihill, and Robert C. Leberman
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During fall 2009, we recorded very high numbers of many species migrating south with record numbers of individuals being banded (> 2 sd of long-term averages) for Magnolia Warbler (548), Black-throated Blue Warbler (139), Eastern Towhee (99), Black-and-white Warbler (39), and Northern Parula (15). However, overall numbers banded were down somewhat as a result of fewer captures than normal for many of the sparrows and kinglets. Weather patterns can influence bird migrations and likely played a role in these results. We captured above-average numbers for the majority of early fall migrants and below-average numbers for those species that move through the region during late fall. During this period we provided banding demonstrations to approximately 500 individuals and hosted an advanced bird banding workshop (7 participants).

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Nets were operated for 29 days beginning 21 Aug 2009 and continuing through 13 Oct 2009. Family obligations and rain limited the operation. No more