

2010

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central)- Fall 2009 Braddock Bay Bird Observatory

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Table 2 (con't). AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2009

Vestal			Ellenville			MBO		
Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
GRCA (1)	35	97%	GRCA (2)	69	84%	WTSP (4)	428	90%
BCCH (2)	14	100%	SCJU (1)	36	28%	SCJU (6)	361	91%
OVEN (7)	10	100%	PUFI (7)	16	69%	SOSP (7)	322	89%
REVI (5)	7	86%	REVI (1)	15	87%	RCKI (3)	257	69%
AMRO	5	40%	BCCH (6)	14	86%	AMRO (2)	200	87%
COYE (6)	5	20%	HETH	14	57%	BCCH (16)	135	91%
YBFL	4	100%	SOSP	12	67%	MYWA (1)	106	76%
HOWR (10)	4	100%	WTSP (3)	12	67%	AMRE (9)	104	90%
HETH	4	100%	BTBW (10)	12	42%	MAWA (5)	103	84%
NOCA	4	100%	VEER	10	70%	HETH (25)	86	100%
AMGO	4	0						
% of Total Banded		35.0%			65.0%			62%
(#) - Indicates ranking last fall.								

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory 431-0774

Kaiser-Manitou Beach Station

Monroe County, NY

Elizabeth W. Brooks and Ryan Kayhart,

Compilers

(brookser@earthlink.net)

The twenty-fourth consecutive year of fall banding at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station began on 9 Jul and ended on 7 Nov 2009. Banding was done by licensed staff banders David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Linda Boutwell, Mark Deutschlander, Kelly Dockery, Jon Dombrowski, Ember Jandebeur, Erin Karnatz, Ryan Kayhart, Jim Keefer, Marian Klik, Cindy Marino, Robert McKinney, Sara Morris, David Semple, Susan Smith, and John Waud, and by visiting licensed banders Dave Alexander, David Holmes, Richard Joos, Hannah Suthers, and Bob Yunick. Banding assistants were Greg Cunningham, Virginia Duffy, Sue Evans, Greg Lawrence, Emily Runnells, Peggy Keller, Nancy Keppel, Tom Klotzbach, Pat Lovallo, Doug Smith, Leanna Twohig, Barb Wagner, and Aggie Windig.

Weather permitting, banding was carried out for at least six hours beginning at dawn every day between 22 Aug and 22 Oct. Parts of five days were lost due to rain and/or wind. Banding was also done on five days prior to and five days after the intensive banding period, for a total of 12,687 net hours on 73 days. There were 4,342 birds banded of 88 species, down from 5,144 birds banded of 89 species in fall 2008, down from 5,526 birds of 91 species in fall 2007, and the lowest total since 2002. Twelve Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were released unbanded (last date, 20 Sep). There were two new species for the cumulative fall list – a Double-crested Cormorant and a Purple Martin; the fall cumulative total is now 125 forms. The season's overall capture rate was 34.2 birds per 100 net hours, down from 40 b/100nh in 2008).

The best day was 14 Oct when 283 birds of 17 species were banded. Of the 283 birds banded that day, 131 (46.3%) were Ruby-crowned Kinglets. There were no other days during the fall when over 200 birds were banded, and only 10 days when over 100 birds were banded. Seven of the ten 100+ bird

days came between 1 and 12 Oct. The greatest species diversity occurred on 24 Sep when 29 species were banded.

Of the total new bandings, 81.5% were HY birds.

Up to 35 12-m nets and four 6-m nets were used, most in the same locations as in previous years. Included in the 35 12-m nets were six double-high net assemblies. Nets were numbered and identified as to their habitat site and the capture time (hour after sunrise to the nearest 0.5 hour) and net number was recorded for each bird handled.

There were just over 1,000 birds recaptured during fall 2009, and they were all measured, fat-scored, and re-weighed. The best returns were a Gray Catbird and a Common Yellowthroat, both in their fifth year.

Avian pox lesions were found on just 12 birds of four species. These were Hermit Thrush, Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow, and White-throated Sparrow. Hippoboscids were found on three birds and ticks were removed from three birds. Lice or mites were found on four birds. One or more tumors were found on a White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, and Black-capped Chickadee. The right eye of a White-throated Sparrow was deformed. A chickadee was doing well with just one leg; the right foot of a Golden-crowned kinglet was deformed; the lower mandible of a Brown Creeper was broken; and a White-throated Sparrow presented with a cloacal prolapse.

There were record-high numbers banded of Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, House Wren, Marsh Wren, Cedar Waxwing, Northern Parula, and Canada Warbler. On the negative side, Rusty Blackbird and House Finch were missing after being recorded on 18 of the past 21 seasons; Connecticut Warbler was missing after being recorded on 15 of the past 21 seasons, and Baltimore Oriole was missing after being recorded on 13 of the past 21 seasons.

Mark Deutschlander and Martyna Boruta of Hobart & William Smith colleges took spectroradiometric data as part of his study on bird plumage and coloration. Mark also collected data on wingspan and wing area in migrants, which will be used to model potential remaining flight distances for birds of different energetic condition. Susan Smith of Villanova University took blood samples from four species of birds for her research on energetic condition and ecological factors that limit passerines during long-distance migrations. We also took blood samples from three sparrow species for research being conducted by RIT student Dihana Khalisa Azhari.

Feather samples were taken from about 50 birds this fall as part of the DNA database for the Avian Influenza monitoring program being coordinated by the Landbird Migration Monitoring Network of the Americas (LaMMNA).

On 22 Aug, we welcomed guests for a tour of the banding station as part of Braddock Bay Raptor Research's Red-tailed Hawk Day, and BBRR volunteers at a later date. We enjoyed visits from Kristi Hannam's Animal Behavior Lab students at SUNY Geneseo, Senior Seminar students from Mark Deutschlander's class at Hobart & William Smith colleges, students of Greg Cunningham of St. John Fisher College, and Sara Morris' Vertebrate Zoology class from Canisius College. We hosted members of the Creative Gardeners Club for a tour of the banding station followed by a presentation on migration by Betsy Brooks. And we welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 99 from Hilton, Cub Scout Den 4 Pack 282 of Rochester, and also members of the New York State Young Birders Association who were visiting Rochester on 10 Oct.

People from ten states signed our Visitors' book this fall as well as guests from Canada, Sweden, and South Africa! BBBO was featured in an article in the September 30-October 6 2009 issue of Rochester's *City Newspaper* "A Bird in the Hand: Study Tracks Migration" by Laura Kammermeier. And staff from National Public Radio (NPR)

visited the banding station to videotape banding and research activities as part of NPR's Science Friday live broadcast on 9 Oct. David Bonter, Mark Deutschlander, Andrew Farnsworth, and Sidney Gauthaux participated in the live broadcast from Cornell University. The program and video can be accessed on www.ScienceFriday.com

Our fall Research Assistant was Ryan Kayhart; Martyna Boruta and Cindy Marino were our Field Assistants. Special thanks to volunteer Heidi Henrichs who helped with data entry and Dominic Sherony who spent many hours cross-checking data from past seasons for accuracy.

Thanks to Tom Muller for mowing paths and to Jim Gillette for mowing the field; and to Kelly Dockery and the Garden Committee, Chris Gates, Steve Maley, and Doug Smith for their assistance with building and grounds management. Appreciation to the following individuals who helped scribe, tended net lanes, or assisted with other aspects of our educational or banding operation: Cathy Belair, Amanda Burns, Jane Capellupo, Judy Engerman, Marilyn Guenther, Kathy Habgood, Gary Herbert, Kathleen Holt, Joanna Klima, John Lehr, Rosemary Lillis, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Andrea and Emily Patterson, Terry Perry, Megan Phillips, Debbie Reed, Lynn Runnells, Gregg Sargis, Lee Schofield, Jeanne Skelly, Ruth Stork, Lona Van Orden, Tom Verhulst, and Kelly Wicks.

A special thank-you goes to Bill Kaiser and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land.

Alfred Station
Allegany County, NY
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421-0774

The 33rd year of fall banding at Alfred Station began on 7 Jul and ended on 12 Nov 2009. One to two 6-m nets and one 12-m net were used on 45 days, for a total of 314.5 net hours. A total of 78 birds of 23 species were banded (24.8 b/100nh). In

addition, two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were captured and released unbanded.

Hatching-year percentages for all birds where age could be determined was 64.3%. Hatching-year percentages for the seven most common species were Slate-colored Junco, 64.7%; Black-capped Chickadee, 92.3%; American Goldfinch, 55.6%; Downy Woodpecker, 80.0%; Gray Catbird, 0 %; Chipping Sparrow, 66.7%; Fox Sparrow, 100%; Song Sparrow, 66.7%.

The peak day occurred on 25 Oct, when seven birds were banded; 57% of those banded were American Goldfinch. The day with the most species diversity was also 25 Oct with four species banded. There were 24 repeats during the season.

There were 28 returns of birds from previous seasons. Noteworthy were a Blue Jay, a junco and two Black-capped Chickadees, all in their fifth year; a Blue Jay, a robin, two chickadees, two goldfinches, a Tree Sparrow, and a Chipping Sparrow, all in their fourth year.

Hippoboscids were found on just one bird. No birds exhibited evidence of avian pox.

As in the previous nine years, no banding was done at this location from 8 Sep to 19 Oct when I was banding at Braddock Bay. Banding summaries were sent to regional compilers for the Allegany County Bird Club, Buffalo Ornithological Society, and the Atlantic Flyway Review. A banding demonstration was held at Foster Lake on 12 Sep.

Kestrel Haven
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Burdett, Schuyler County, NY
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422-0764

Every bubble must eventually burst and ours blew up in spectacular fashion this fall with the lowest totals we have experienced since 1992, when we began constant-effort netting. Our returns were the