

2010

## Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central)- Fall 2009 Alfred Station

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### Recommended Citation

Brooks, Elizabeth W. (2010) "Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central)- Fall 2009 Alfred Station," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 35 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol35/iss1/10>

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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](http://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.

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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.

Hippoboscid flies 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**  
**Avian Migration Observatory**  
Burdett, Schuyler County, NY  
**John and Sue Gregoire**  
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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