

2010

## Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2009 Raccoon Ridge Bird Observatory

Laura Obiso

Cailin O'Connor Fitzpatrick

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb>

---

### Recommended Citation

Obiso, Laura and Fitzpatrick, Cailin O'Connor (2010) "Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2009 Raccoon Ridge Bird Observatory," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 35 : Iss. 2 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol35/iss2/19>

This Eastern News is brought to you for free and open access by the Searchable Ornithological Research Archive at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in North American Bird Bander by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usf.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usf.edu).

**Raccoon Ridge Bird Observatory 411-0744**

Branchville, Sussex Co., NJ

**Laura Obiso, Director****Cailin O'Connor Fitzpatrick, Bander/Compiler**

Caroline H. Muchmore, Quinn L. Fitzpatrick,  
Robert R. Scherr III, Grace Muchmore, Samantha  
N. Richardson, Chief Assistants  
coconnor@bergen.edu

The banding station opened for the year on 9 Mar, operating 14 nets and one trap, whenever possible, for 34 banding days. The station operated for seven days in Mar, 10 days in Apr, 12 days in May, and five days in Jun. We closed for the summer on 23 Jun, having banded 363 individuals and recaptured 106. We banded a total of 64 species, but handled 67 species, as we recaptured previously banded Downy Woodpeckers and an Eastern Towhee but banded no new individuals of those species. Additionally, we captured several Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on various dates, which we do not band. New species and hybrids for the station this spring included Sharp-shinned Hawk (13 Mar), Brewster's Warbler backcross (30 Apr), Orange-crowned Warbler (3 May), American Woodcock (26 May), and Yellow-Breasted Chat (2 Jun). Other species of note included Hairy Woodpecker (14 Apr), Nashville Warbler (8 May), Canada Warbler (10 May), Prairie Warbler (16 May), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (6 Jun), Brown Thrasher (6 Jun), and Hooded Warbler (23 Jun).

As expected, Gray Catbirds were the most common species banded/captured with 43 individuals banded and 15 recaptured. Slate-colored Juncos were the second most common species banded with 38 banded and two recaptured. Chipping Sparrows (26 banded, one recaptured), Song Sparrows (18 banded, five recaptured), and Yellow Warblers (15 banded, four recaptured) round out our top five species for individuals banded. It should be noted that our second most common species captured was Black-capped Chickadees, but as only 12 of the 42 captured were banded this spring (the rest were recaptures), they do not make the top five banded species list.

Most individuals in a day were captured on 8 May with 33 birds banded, 11 of which were Gray Catbirds. Our greatest species diversity was on 16 May with 19 species captured, 17 of which were banded that day (the remaining two species were recaptures). We banded 22 species of warblers this spring.

**Powdermill Nature Reserve 400-0791**

Rector, Westmoreland County, PA

**Robert S. Mulvihill and Molly McDermott,**

acvitz@yahoo.com

**Banders** Mary Shidel, Emma Deleon, Amy  
Amones, Trish Miller, Chief Assistants

Weather conditions during spring 2009 were typical for the area. Species captured in numbers above 2 standard deviations (SD) only included the Cedar Waxwing, and no species were captured >2 SD less than their long-term mean. No foreign recoveries or encounters have been reported from birds banded during spring 2009. Interesting captures included three Worm-eating Warblers, three Golden-winged Warblers, and two Brewster's Warblers.

No.	Species	% SY	% ASY	% AHY
218	Cedar Waxwing	72	26	1
147	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	37	27	3
138	Magnolia Warbler	44	54	2
121	American Goldfinch	68	30	2
101	Dark-eyed Junco	27	73	0
91	Gray Catbird	69	25	6
82	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	13	7	80
75	Song Sparrow	41	15	44
59	Hooded Warbler	71	27	0
• 59	Swainson's Thrush	64	36	0

During this period, we provided banding demonstrations to over 15 groups of approximately 500 individuals. In addition, we hosted two bird banding workshops with one of them geared towards beginners and the other for intermediate