

2011

Margery Adams Bird Banding Station Spring 2011 Report, Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Springfield, IL

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raising regular membership dues at this year's annual meeting. We will need to raise it to \$25 per year, at least. Of the three banding associations, IBBA's annual dues are lowest. In addition, we have 85 life members. At the rate we are going, the life membership fund will run out in less than seven years. CD's are only paying about 1% and that does not cover the cost of *NABB* for life members. We need to raise the cost of a Life Membership or eliminate the Life Membership in the future. One thing that the three banding associations are looking into is the possibility of electronic copies of *NABB*. This would save thousands of dollars each year.

Key items for the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting will include discussion of the following: (1) increasing regular dues; (2) increasing cost of, or eliminating, the Life Member category; and (3) approving changes to Bylaws. The proposed ballot to be presented for 2012 officers will nominate H. Thomas Bartlett (Ohio - 3rd term) for President, David Cimprich (Texas - 3rd term) for 1st VP, Cathie Hutcheson (Illinois - 5th term) for 2nd VP, Brent Ortego (Texas - 3rd term) for Treasurer, Dana Ripper (Missouri - 1st term) as Secretary, and Eric Soehren (Alabama - 2nd term) as 2014 Director. The second 2014 Director position remains open at this time.

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16 May 2011

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Margery Adams Bird Banding Station
Spring 2011 Report
Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Springfield, IL

The 2011 spring banding season at Margery Adams Bird Banding Station (MABBS) ran from 21 Mar through 26 May. Up to 28 mist nets were used on 38 mornings (weekdays and some Saturdays) producing 4,549 net-hours of operation. [One net-hour is the use of one standard, 12-m net for one hour during daylight hours.] This spring's totals were 1,356 birds of 80 species banded, plus repeats and

returns of another 317 birds (+ 2 more species) for a season average of 0.37 total birds per net-hour.

The majority of nets were placed in the wooded portion of the sanctuary and were responsible for capturing most of the warblers, thrushes, vireos, flycatchers, kinglets, creepers, White-throated Sparrows, catbirds and cardinals. The six nets placed in the "prairie" portion of the sanctuary were most productive for species associated with non-woody vegetation including several sparrows (especially Lincoln's, Song and Swamp), Indigo Buntings, American Goldfinches, Common Yellowthroat and the *Empidonax* flycatchers; it was in one of these nets that the sanctuary's first Prairie Warbler was captured. A net that was half in and half out of the woods, but relatively close to the newly created pond, caught the season's two Yellow-breasted Chats, the White-eyed Vireos, three towhees and the sanctuary's first Green Heron.

One event that all birders thrive to be a part of is a major "fallout"; such an event occurred at the sanctuary on 13 May last year when 376 birds were banded and another 200+ were let go unbanded. I doubt I will ever encounter a day like that again. This year there were no "fallout" days and there were only two days when 100 or more birds were banded.

Although MABBS is only in its third spring season, this season produced the highest banding totals for at least 17 species. New records were established for four *Empidonax* flycatchers, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Palm Warbler, the "prairie" sparrows, and Red-winged Blackbird. Although not record-setting, there were good numbers of all thrushes, creepers and kinglets, plus 12 hummingbirds (and two more that were returns from last year).

There were several birds of special interest caught this spring; however, four are worth sharing. A male cardinal was recaptured that had been banded on 3 Jan 2004 (which made it at least eight-year-old); a Warbling Vireo that was originally banded on 20 May 2009 (and may be a nesting species at Adams) was caught again on 9 May this year; a Red-eyed Vireo was banded as a migrant on 20 May

2009 (same day as the Warbling Vireo), recaptured on 24 May 2010, and again on 24 May 2011 (this banding and recaptures are most impressive since Red-eyed Vireos do nest at the sanctuary); and, finally, a female Common Yellowthroat (which may have nested at the sanctuary) initially banded on 15 Sep 2008, caught again on 2 Sep 2010 and now, again, on 12 May this year.

Notably absent from the nets this spring were: both cuckoos, Red-bellied Woodpecker, sapsucker, Yellow-throated and Philadelphia vireos, Blue Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing, Blue-winged, Golden-winged, and several other migrant warblers, Summer Tanager and Baltimore Oriole. And, if it had not been for one banding day there would have been only four Yellow-rumped Warblers captured, but 21 were banded on 30 Apr. For complete MABBS details, check the Illinois Audubon Society webpage.

Some interesting spring comparisons:

	2009	2010	2011
Total birds banded	1494	1531	1356
Total species banded	81	52	80
Total net-hours of operation	3565	5194	4549
Birds/net hour	0.42	0.29	0.30

As usual, many thanks to everyone who donated both time and necessary dollars for the MABBS project. Special thanks to the following for the extraordinary number of hours donated this spring: Billie Costales, Tracy Evans, Jacques Nuzzo, Tony Rothering, Susan Shaw, and Bill Zierath. The MABBS fall season is scheduled for 27 August through mid-November.

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IBBA Annual Report of Birds Banded, 2010

Summary of bird banding reported from the IBBA region for 2010.

This is the ninth consecutive year of this report. Sixty-six banders reported banding 113,000 birds and 357 species/forms. Illinois/Indiana, Kentucky/Tennessee, Arkansas/Oklahoma and Texas reported major increases in banding, while the Dakotas/Nebraska/Kansas reported much less. Texas banders reported 38% of banded birds, with Ohio reporting 25%, and Illinois/Indiana and Michigan/Minnesota/Wisconsin 13% each.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird was again the Number One species reported with 13,785 banded. This is both reflective of the abundance of the species and the strong interest in the banding community with this species. American Goldfinches increased in numbers this winter with 7676

reported. Inclusion of one game agency's dove banding placed White-winged Dove with 7380 as third and 2651 Mourning Doves as fifth. Black-chinned Hummingbird, being relatively abundant on the western end of the region, was reported as fourth with 5553. White-throated Sparrow was fifth with 3532, Purple Martin seventh with 2548, Chipping Sparrow eighth with 2544, Northern Cardinal ninth with 2304, and Gray Catbird tenth with 2103.

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