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## Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2010 Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory

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Flycatcher (2010: 15; average:  $24 \pm 12$ ), Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (2010: 13; average:  $39 \pm 30$ ), Blue-headed Vireo (2010: 7; average:  $31 \pm 24$ ), Red-eyed Vireo (2010: 63; average:  $130 \pm 56$ ), Veery (2010: 3; average:  $17 \pm 7$ ), Yellow-rumped Warbler (2010: 3; average:  $41 \pm 54$ ), Ovenbird (2010: 39; average:  $82 \pm 38$ ), Black-and-white Warbler (2010: 30; average:  $86 \pm 35$ ), Common Yellowthroat (2010: 410; average:  $531 \pm 162$ ), Rose-breasted Grosbeak (2010: 8; average:  $17 \pm 6$ ), and Scarlet Tanager (2010: 4; average:  $10 \pm 5$ ). Additionally, several species that we normally capture in low numbers were entirely absent this spring, including Palm Warbler, Warbling Vireo, House Wren, Wood Thrush, and Gray-cheeked Thrush.

Only a few species were captured in higher-than-average numbers including American Redstart (2010: 227; average:  $157 \pm 72$ ) and Indigo Bunting (2010: 8; average:  $2.9 \pm 2.6$ ). We were excited by a few unusual birds in the nets, including a Kentucky Warbler, Grasshopper Sparrow, Painted Bunting, and Summer Tanager, although none of these species was new to the station.

In addition to studying migration, our station is part of the educational experience available at the Shoals Marine Lab. We gave banding demonstrations to a number of classes, visiting high school groups, and day-trip visitors to the island. We are grateful to the Shoals Marine Lab (SML) for their continued support, to the staff of SML for helping with logistics, and to Canisius College and several anonymous donors for financial support. The station is fortunate to have a group of fantastic volunteers, without whom we could not continue our studies of songbird migration.

**Long Point 423-0800, 423-0801, 423-0802  
Bird Observatory**

Port Rowan, Norfolk County, ON

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The Long Point Bird Observatory's (LPBO) 51<sup>st</sup>

Oct - Dec 2011

spring season of migration monitoring season started at Old Cut on 1 Apr. The Tip and Breakwater were open on 11 Apr and 20 Apr, respectively. A huge blast of warm weather (temperatures in the high 70s) started the season with a bang, but a return to more seasonal weather by the second week of April meant migration slowed back down. Some highlights included Long Point's second Pacific Loon and third Fish Crow, both found on field trips during LPBO's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations and Long Point's first photographed Eurasian Collared-Dove.

No.	Species	%SY	%ASY	%AHY
1277	White-throated Sparrow	65.2	13.6	21.3
977	Blue Jay	84.4	9.4	6.1
775	Red-winged Blackbird	38.1	59.6	2.3
541	Magnolia Warbler	69.7	26.4	3.9
489	American Goldfinch	68.7	31.1	0.2
466	Yellow Warbler	65.9	31.1	3
405	Gray Catbird	61	30.9	8.1
372	White-crowned Sparrow	60.5	24.7	14.8
359	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	57.7	33.7	8.6
357	Common Grackle	16.2	1.1	82.6

**Kestrel Haven**

**422-0764**

**Avian Migration Observatory**

Burdett, Schuyler County, NY

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We termed last spring's effort as "dismal". That leaves us without an appropriate or polite word to describe this year, where we banded 50% fewer birds! Weather was most often unsafe for netting and an early warmth brought birds north in sporadic bursts. Most of the movement coincided with high winds and a station closed for safety.

We banded 323 individuals of 46 species in 16 days of operation. We also had 27 repeats, 48 returns, and two hummingbirds not banded. Our measure of efficiency was 122 b/100nh for newly banded birds and 135 b/100nh overall. Our best day was 15 Apr with 48 banded and our most species diverse day

was 17 May with 17 species banded. The station total remains at 132 species and six forms banded and the cumulative point count at 220 species seen at Kestrel Haven. We banded two Yellow-shafted Flickers that presented with some red primary shafts.

No.	Species	%SY	%ASY	%AHY
84	American Goldfinch	40	23	37
28	White-throated Sparrow	60	40	
19	Myrtle Warbler	63	37	
18	Yellow Warbler	78	22	
18	White-crowned Sparrow	40	60	
16	Slate-colored Junco	6		94
15	Red-winged Blackbird	66	34	
13	American Robin	12	77	11
11	Song Sparrow			100
8	Chipping Sparrow	25	75	

The only item worth reporting is our returns. The highlight was the return of a female Hairy Woodpecker that set a new species longevity record at over 16 years of age. She has been recaptured quite often since her banding as an adult in July 1995. Out of deference for her age, we left her very worn band in place. She led the list of 24 of the 46 returns that were over four years of age. The elders were:

**1 Hairy Woodpecker at 16+ years old.**

- 1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at 5.
- 1 Blue Jay at 4.
- 2 Black-capped Chickadees at 5 and 6.
- 4 American Robins at 4 (3) and 5.
- 7 Yellow Warblers at 4 (6) and 4+.
- 2 Northern Cardinals at 4 and 6.
- 1 Song Sparrow at 4.
- 1 Red-winged Blackbird at 7+.
- 1 Baltimore Oriole at 4.
- 2 American Goldfinch at 4 and 6.

We had a report of an American Goldfinch banded here in Nov 2008 that was found dead southeast of downtown Rochester, NY, on 26 Apr 2010.

We thank Bob and Judy Cosgriff, A.L. Donahue and David Guaspari for their financial support, as

well as Stillman's Greenhouse for their advice, assistance and support. Thanks to Vicky Kelly for her continued maintenance of our website. A very special thanks to Rick Smith and ATC-NY Corp. for their generous donation of a laptop!

**Presque Isle State Park 420-0800, 429-0805 and Erie Bluffs State Park**

Erie Co., Erie, PA

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We continued to use the three sites used last year (Niagara Boat Launch, Fry's Landing, and Erie Bluffs State Park, between the bluff and the cornfield), spending two days a week netting at each location. We had an exciting "fall out" event at Erie Bluffs on 20 May. It was mid-morning (~10:30am) and the weather was clear and sunny. Then, literally out of the blue sky, Blue Jays started to drop from the sky. Within minutes we were surrounded by a flock of several hundred individuals. They stayed in the area throughout the morning foraging on the dried remnant corn in the field and along the edge vegetation. We caught 17 Blue Jays on that date, and overall we caught 73 of them at that site this season, much higher than average.

We continued to collect ticks from birds to send to the Duiker Lab at Yale for analysis for Lyme disease.

No.	Species	%SY	%ASY	%AHY
327	Yellow Warbler	45	46	8
79	Gray Catbird	11	14	75
75	Blue Jay	81	15	4
50	Magnolia Warbler	46	46	6
44	American Redstart	30	56	14
39	White-throated Sparrow	38	18	44
31	Song Sparrow	42		58
26	Swainson's Thrush	4	46	50
21	American Robin	27	36	36
19	White-crowned Sparrow	21	21	58