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Atlantic Flyway Review: Spring 2010 Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park

Michelle Davis

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Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park 254-0800
Key Biscayne, Miami-Dade Co., FL
Banders: *Michelle Davis, Robin Diaz, Elizabeth Golden, Erica Hernandez, Evan Adams, Kate Williams*
vireoojorojo@hotmail.com

The banding station at Cape Florida was operated in spring 2010 as part of a cooperative project with Evan Adams and Kate Williams from the University of Maine, who are collecting data on migration physiology and mercury loads of northbound migrants, particularly Blackpoll Warblers. The habitat is restored tropical hardwood hammock in a state park on a barrier island offshore from Miami.

Five to 19 nets were used, and placed in the same locations as the fall season. The spring banding period ran from 9 Apr until 9 May 2010. There were 1,207 birds captured overall, of 30 species. The weather was conducive to grounding birds at Cape Florida this spring, and the b/100nh was twice what it was in 2009. Our best days were 217 birds banded on 27 Apr, 161 on 19 Apr, and 156 on 28 Apr. Blackpoll numbers were back to a respectable 66 banded for the season, with 34 of those captured on 27 Apr. Diversity in spring at this location is much

lower than in fall, with Caribbean wintering warblers the vast majority of the captures.

The Kentucky Warbler banded on 20 Apr is unusual in spring and the Red-winged Blackbird banded on 23 Apr is a first for Cape Florida, spring or fall. Cape Florida is attractive to vagrants from the Caribbean, but the LaSagra's Flycatcher and Western Spindalis lingering in the vicinity of the banding area were never captured.

We captured one foreign recovery in spring 2010—a Gray Catbird with color bands. This bird was banded in Cuba by Canadians on 31 Oct 2006.

No.	Species
164	Ovenbird
159	Black-throated Blue Warbler
136	American Redstart
120	Northern Waterthrush
105	Worm-eating Warbler
91	Black-and-White Warbler
87	Common Yellowthroat
69	Gray Catbird
66	Blackpoll Warbler
59	Prairie Warbler

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge) – Fall 2010

Elizabeth W. Brooks, Coordinator
5540 Jericho Hill Road
Alfred Station, NY 14803
brookser@earthlink.net

It was a unanimous decision at all reporting stations ... fall 2010 was a VERY good banding season. Totals were up from the previous year at every single station. Ruthven tallied its all-time high (4,763). Jerry Farrell (completing his 35th year of banding at his Lewiston, NY, station) noticed the increase in Hermit Thrush and that species was in the top 10 list at all five of the northernmost reporting stations.

There was an interesting irruption of Black-capped Chickadees, with that species making the top ten at

Lewiston and the top species at Long Point where 1,960 (double their previous high) were banded, 99% of them HY. (The same movement was very evident at all eight Region II reporting stations, where chickadee made the top ten list of each, and the top one or two on that list at Braddock Bay, Alfred Station, Spring Hill, Vestal, and Ellenville in western and central New York).

The build-up of Blackpoll Warblers continued with 193 banded at Ruthven (a record), 1,165 banded at Long Point (#3 on their top ten list) and 1,478 at Allegheny Front (#2 on their top ten).

As always, thanks to everyone who contributes to the AFR Region III report!