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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge)- Fall 2010 Long Point Bird Observatory

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

Port Rowan, Norfolk County, ON

Banders: Mike Burrell and Ross W. Wood

lpbo@bsc~eoc.org

Chief Assistants: Hugh McArthur, and Stu Mackenzie

The fall season officially started on 12 Aug at Old Cut. The Tip and Breakwater were opened on the 16th and 28th, respectively. The fall season had many highlights, including three new species banded: Caspian Tern, Green-tailed Towhee, and Spotted Towhee, all at the Tip. The Green-tailed Towhee and a Western Wood-Pewee, observed at the Tip in late August, both represent new species for the Long Point area.

Black-capped Chickadees staged an unprecedented irruption through Long Point this fall, with almost 2,000 banded, more than double the previous high of 800. Cave Swallows also staged an impressive movement into the Long Point area, with an estimated total of 300-500 present in the region in late October and early November. While not a record, five Cave Swallows were banded at the Tip. Virtually all species of passerines were banded in near record numbers this fall at LPBO and several species set new highs.

Raptor banding this fall was productive, with 1 American Kestrel, 6 Merlins, 1 Northern Goshawk, 88 Sharp-shinned hawks, 2 Cooper's Hawks, and 1 Red-tailed Hawk, which was banded. Northern Saw-whet Owl migration monitoring began at Old Cut and the Tip on 1 and 6 Oct, respectively, and ended on 13 and 12 Nov. There were 28 nights of coverage at Old Cut and 14 at the Tip. In total, 717 Northern Saw-whet Owls were banded; the third highest for LPBO.

Long Point Bird Observatory cooperators conducting additional research produced 16 publications in collaboration with partners at Acadia University, the University of Western Ontario, the University of Guelph, and many others. Forty-six volunteers, representing six countries, logged over

5,077 field hours collecting migration data on nearly 255 species and banding 17,595 birds of 133 species and forms. This is a new record high for the fall period and well above the 10-year average of 12,134 birds of 119 species. LPBO had 104 days of coverage, yielding 10,784 net hours, with a catch rate of 163 b/100nh. Eight ground traps, four J-Traps and two Heligoland traps contributed 10.1% of the catch (18.1 % lower than the spring).

Twenty-three volunteer Friends of LPBO helped to serve over 1170 visitors and students of all ages who enjoyed banding demonstrations among other marvels of the fall migration through the Old Cut field station.

For more information about LPBO, read the LPBO E-news, download the 2010 Program Report, and learn about the recent sightings at Long Point - visit the <http://www.birdscanada.org/longpoint>

Presque Isle 420-0800, 429-0805, 421-0822
State Park and Erie Bluffs State Park
Erie, PA

Bander: Sarah Sargent

ssargent@audubon.org

Chief Assistants: Anne Balogh; Christine, and Michelle Varona

The combined three sites at Presque Isle State Park and Erie Bluffs State Park operated for 48 days during fall 2010. We had fewer species than we did in fall 2009 but banded 358 more birds.

Powdermill Nature Reserve 401-0791
Rector, Westmoreland County, PA

Bander: Andrew C. Vitz

Chief Assistants: Mary Shidel, Jeff Moker, Lauren Morgan-Outhisack
acvitz@yahoo.com

We had typical fall weather during 2010. We processed record, or near record, numbers for quite a few species during the fall period. As a result, the following species had capture totals over 2 SD from our long-term data: Blackpoll Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Golden-crowned Kinglet,