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ATLANTIC FLYWAY REVIEW:

Region IV Piedmont—Coastal Plain, Fall 2011

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Weather conditions had a major impact on the fall migration in 2011. Temperatures in the eastern states north of Florida averaged 1° to 5°F above normal in July, and in the southeastern states they remained 3° to 5°F above normal in August. In September and October, the heat wave moved north into New York and New England, then in November and December it intensified and expanded to include all the eastern states except Louisiana. By November, all the North Central and Northeastern states were reporting average monthly temperatures 5° to 8°F above normal. As a result, southward migration of many species was delayed and, for sparrows, blackbirds, and finches in particular, with ample food available in the north, the birds never reached their normal wintering grounds. Juncos at Foreman's Branch dropped from 791 in 2010 to 503 in 2011, Song Sparrows from 1,343 to 982, and goldfinches from 1,027 to fewer than 320.

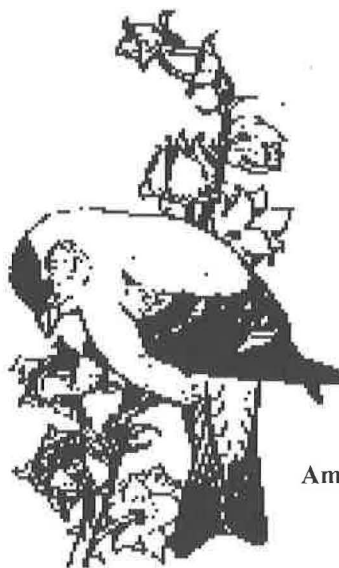
In the meantime, the coastal states from Virginia northward were receiving in excess of double their normal precipitation, greatly hampering banding operations. From 24 Aug to 11 Sep, Baltimore recorded 14.46" of rainfall, while Hurricane Irene passed offshore and then the remains of Tropical Storm Lee stalled over Chesapeake Bay, then very slowly receded westward. Susquehanna River flooding exceeded century-old records. Cold rain drenched Florida in October.

Notable were a few eye-catching banding totals for Region IV and non-Region IV birds: 336 Blue Grosbeaks, 279 Hermit Thrushes, 141 Traill's Flycatchers, and 2 Ash-throated Flycatchers at Foreman's Branch; 388 Northern Parulas at Kiptopeke, single Lawrence's Warblers at both

Foreman's Branch and Kiptopeke; a Bell's Vireo at Kiawah Island; a Mourning Warbler at North Folly Island; and 132 Worm-eating Warblers and 23 Swainson's Warblers at Cape Florida.

We thank the dedicated Region IV banders and their band-aides for the tremendous efforts they contribute to this quantitative research on the ever-changing fall migration patterns in the southeastern states. This year they worked under exceptionally wet and muddy circumstances, enduring attacks from mosquitoes, ticks, and (at Tomoka) pygmy rattlesnakes. Together the Region IV banders contributed more than 80,000 net-hours of effort during the 2011 season.

We miss Richard Roberts' coastal report from Chincoteague; regrettably he does not anticipate being able to continue banding at that station.



American Goldfinch

Table 1. AFR Region IV - Fall 2011 Summary

	Eden Mill	Laurel	Patuxent	Foreman's Branch	Kiptopeke	Kiawah Island	North Folly Island	Jekyll Island	Tomoka	Cape Florida	Lakeshore Estates
First Day	26 Aug	15 Aug	17 Aug	1 Aug	15 Aug	19 Aug	3 Sep	2 Oct	6 Sep	22 Aug	15 Aug
Last Day	4 Nov	5 Dec	21 Nov	30 Nov	22 Nov	30 Nov	26 Nov	16 Oct	29 Nov	11 Nov	15 Nov
Days Open	9	28	42	87	91	56	10	14	56	76	78
No. Nets Used	11.5	13	26	10 to 101	32	12	6	15	4 to 10	22	4 to 6
Net Hours	368	1,845	3,485	44,532	15,992	2,410	277	537	1,596	8,249	1,723
No. Best Day	34	13	162	433	490	137	87	240	33	177	N/A
Best Day Date	7 Oct	17 Sep	26 Oct	23 Oct	23 Oct	2 Oct	1 Oct	15 Oct	21 Oct	16 Oct	N/A
Most Species	14	9	28	46	334	21	17	22	12	22	N/A
" " Date	16 Sep	17 Sep	5 Oct	6 Oct	16 Oct	21 Oct	1 Oct	15 Oct	16 & 21 Oct	15 & 20 Oct	N/A
Banded 2010	265	115	1,876	13,431	8,470	910	603	458	286	1,220	199
Banded 2011	197	180	1,831	11,252	10,017	2,263	385	1,030	323	2,244	64
Species 2010	45	20	79	127	95	54	55	43	26	52	37
Species 2011	32	31	71	119	95	66	49	44	36	62	21
B/100nh 2010	37.9	12.3	52.9	32.4	64	106.6	72.6	83.8	18	19	7
B/100nh 2011	53.5	9.8	52.5	25.2	63	93.9	139.0	191.8	21	31	4
% HY 2010	83%	65%	73%	89%	92%	81%	94.20%	83%	61%	56%	76%
% HY 2011	91%	50%	75%	85%	95%	82%	86.50%	89.9%	65%	54%	60%

Table 2. AFR IV. Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, Fall 2011

	Eden Mill		Laurel		Patuxent		Foreman's Branch		Kiptopeke	
		% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY
1.	50 WTSP (1)	97	22 NOCA (3)	67	297 WTSP (2)	73	1552 WTSP (1)	81	3827 MYWA (1)	93.4
2.	47 GRCA (2)	94	17 HETH (1)	71	224 GRCA (3)	67	982 SOSP (2)	86	1017 GRCA (3)	92.5
3.	20 NOCA (3)	75	17 OVEN	12	177 RCKI (1)	61	909 INBU (4)	93	927 AMRE (2)	96.0
4.	11 SWSP (4)	100	15 AMRO (6)	36	126 DEJU (4)	56	537 GRCA	77	431 COYE (6)	99.5
5.	10 SOSP (5)	100	15 BTBW	67	108 MAWA (5)	60	503 DEJU (5)	70	388 NOPA	98.9
6.	11 INBU	100	12 GRCA	50	100 COYE (6)	55	484 COYE (9)	60	372 BTBW (7)	97.6
7.	4 ACFL	75	10 WTSP (2)	50	84 HETH (9)	85	413 RCKI (8)	86	201 SOSP (8)	98.5
8.	4 COYE	50	8 CARW (7)	62	69 EATO	84	353 CHSP	90	199 SWSP	94.9
9.	4 ETTI	100	7 ETTI (4)	33	59 REVI (8)	82	336 BLGR	90	160 INBU	98.8
10.	4 MAWA	100	6 VEER	67	34 SWTH	88	304 SWSP	76	159 WTSP (4)	98.1

(#) INDICATES PLACEMENT ON LIST IN 2010.

Table 2 (continued). AFR IV. Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, Fall 2011

	Kiawah Island		North Folly Island		Jekyll Island		Tomoka		Cape Florida		Lakeshore Eststes	
		% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY		% HY
1.	602 COYE (2)	85	79 GRCA (1)	72	312 WPWA	92.6	114 MYWA (11)	77	471 BTBW (1)	51.0	10 WEVI (2)	53
2.	460 MYWA (1)	71	61 COYE (2)	95	310 COYE	87.7	55 BTBW (4)	60	356 OVEN (2)	59.8	10 BLJA	60
3.	305 GRCA (3)	92	51 MYWA (4)	98	75 GRCA	90.6	25 COYE (5)	56	299 AMRE (3)	34.4	5 NOCA (1)	67
4.	100 REVI (7)	93	38 AMRE (3)	84	68 AMRE	88.2	24 GRCA (2)	54	287 GRCA (6)	70.4	4 BRTH (7)	80
5.	96 AMRE (6)	69	15 REVI (6)	73	52 BTBW	69.2	15 NOCA (3)	73	132 WEWA (4)	31.3	4 VEER	75
6.	66 PRAW (4)	85	12 PRAW	83	26 MYWA	96.1	13 OVEN (7)	69	96 BAWW (5)	31.3	4 HOWA	75
7.	59 WPWA	68	11 BTBW	73	24 REVI	100	11 ETTI	49	95 COYE (7)	70.5	4 PIWA	50
8.	52 PABU (5)	92	10 INBU	100	22 INBU	90.9	7 YBSA	71	74 NOPA (8)	58.1		
9.	42 BTBW (9)	83	9 BAOR	100	19 PABU	89.4	6 BAWW	67	62 NOWA (9)	51.6		
10.	38 NOCA (10)	76	8 NOWA	75	19 NOCA	42.1	5 WOTH	20	31 WEVI	51.6		

(#) INDICATES PLACEMENT ON LIST IN 2010.