

2012

## Atlantic Flyway Review: Region III (Western Ridge)- Fall 2011 Long Point Bird Observatory

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LPBO's 52<sup>nd</sup> fall season officially started at Old Cut on 15 Aug with the Tip and Breakwater opening on 16 and 27 Aug, respectively. Forty-seven volunteers, representing eight countries, logged over 3,323 field hours, collecting migration data on over 250 species, and banding 11,527 birds of 124 species. LPBO had 104 days of coverage, yielding 11,370 net hours, with a catch rate of 102 b/100nh. Eight ground traps, four J-Traps and two Heligoland traps contributed 9.3% of the catch (11.6 % lower than the spring). Twenty-three volunteer 'Friends' of LPBO helped to serve over 1500 visitors and students of all ages who enjoyed banding demonstrations among other marvels of the fall migration through the Old Cut Research Station.

Sporadic migration monitoring coverage began with the Doug Tarry Young Ornithologist Workshop in late July. The fall began incredibly slow and remained that way for the majority of the season. Favorable weather created perfect conditions for migration and less than great conditions for stopping over. The slow pace continued throughout the season, with a few peak days at the end of September and late October. The fall season was also kind of slow highlights wise. A beautiful male Yellow-throated Warbler was banded at the Tip on 25 Oct.

Raptor banding this fall was very productive owing to a special effort put in by Latin American trainee from Cuba, Alejandro Sosa, with 183 diurnal raptors of seven species being banded, including nine Peregrine Falcons! Northern Saw-whet Owl migration monitoring began at Old Cut and the Tip on 2 and 3 Oct and ended on 22 and 5 Nov, respectively. There were 37 nights of coverage at Old Cut and 14 at the Tip. Northern Saw-whet Owl migration this year was incredibly slow, with a total of only 190 banded, our lowest total since owl

monitoring began in 1998. One Eastern Screech Owl and two Long-eared Owls were also banded.

For more information on the research, education, and training programs of LPBO, visit us at <http://www.birdscanada.org/lpbo> Visualizations of our data, including summary statistics, migration windows, seasonal checklists, and population trends, are available at <http://www.birdscanada.org/birdmon>

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

**Sarah Sargent, Bander**

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Mattie Van der Boom, Lauren Smith, Amy Gondran, Chief Assistants

Although there were several good flights of Yellow-rumped Warblers, results for fall 2011 were down from 2010 numbers by about 400 birds at Presque Isle.

**The Arboretum at Penn State** 404-0775

State College, Centre County, PA

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Dr. Margaret Brittingham, Andrew Weber, PSU WFS-497A students, Chief Assistants

Banding was conducted at two Arboretum locations this season: adjacent to the Bellefonte-Central Rail Trail in Big Hollow and near the Overlook Pavilion at the H.O.Smith Botanic Gardens.

The rail trail area consists of former pasture lands populated primarily with invasive shrub species (autumn olive, multiflora rose and privet) adjacent to a small woodlot of second growth woodland of white oak. Banding has occurred at this location since fall of 2010.

The pavilion site included shrubby wood edge (predominately white oak) and a bird feeding area adjacent to the gardens and mowed field for football parking. This site was added to meet the public outreach component of the Avian Education