

2015

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central)- Fall 2014- Braddock Bay Bird Observatory

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Table 2. AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species -- Fall 2014

	Braddock Bay			Alfred Station			Northview			MBO		
	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
1.	WTSP (1)	947	92.8%	SCJU (1)	37	69%	GRCA (1)	31	65%	WTSP (4)	484	73.8%
2.	RCKI (3)	446	85.9%	BCCH	12	73%	SCJU	17	70%	RCKI (1)	327	73.1%
3.	GCKI (2)	332	85.8%	WBNU	7	50%	SOSP (3)	14	50%	MAWA (2)	279	67.0%
4.	HETH (6)	251	91.5%	WTSP	5	60%	WTSP (4)	14	93%	SCJU (14)	242	78.5%
5.	GRCA (5)	233	93.1%	AMGO	4	75%	BLJA	9	55%	TEWA (5)	168	83.3%
6.	MAWA (4)	194	89.3%							MYWA (8)	164	73.2%
7	SCJU (12)	193	88.5%							AMRO (6)	144	81.9%
8.	BLPW (7)	189	62.0%							AMRE (7)	138	89.9%
9.	YEWA (8)	179	96.1%							SOSP (3)	136	83.0%
10.	AMGO (32)	154	48.7%							REVI (12)	126	81.7%
% of Total Banded			65.3%			68%			66%			58%
Notes: (#) Indicates ranking last fall.												

Braddock Bay Bird Observ. **431-0774**
 Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station
 Robert G. McKinney Banding Lab
 Monroe County, NY
Elizabeth W. Brooks, Bander-in-Charge and Compiler
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The twenty-ninth consecutive year of fall banding at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station began on 20 Jul and ended on 4 Nov 2014. Banding was done by licensed banders David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Jon Dombrowski, Erin Karnatz, Ryan Kayhart, Peggy Keller, Marian Klik, Tom Klotzbach, Cindy Marino, Dave Mathiason, Sue Smith Pagano, Andrea Patterson, Emily Patterson, Doug Smith, and John Waud. Banding assistants were Claire Ashton, Claire Buck, Virginia Duffy, Kevin Eckert, Jenna Holschuh, Pat Lovallo, Greg Lawrence, Gail Lazoration, Maggie MacNeil, Pat Martin, Danica Metlay, Meghan Oberkircher, Rick Sherman, Allison VanKeuren, Barb Wagner, Cici Weber, and Aggie Windig.

Weather permitting, banding was carried out for up to six hours beginning at dawn for 12 days between 20 Jul and 11 Aug and 77 days between 20 Aug to 4 Nov, for a total of 89 days. We did not operate on one day in October and one day in early November due to inclement weather.

There was a total of 16,561.63 net hours on 89 days, with 4777 birds banded of 90 species, which is 566 more new birds captured than in fall 2013. There were one male and four female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds released unbanded. There were no new species for the fall list; the fall cumulative total remains at 129 forms. The season's overall capture rate was 28.8 birds per 100 net hours (b/100nh) down from 29.5 b/100nh in 2013 and 37.8 b/100nh in 2012.

Our blog and daily banding tallies from the fall 2014 season may be found on our website at <http://braddockbaybirdobservatory.wordpress.com>

The best day was 12 Oct when 356 birds of 20 species were banded. On that day, the predominant species was Ruby-crowned Kinglet with 111

banded (31.2% of the total). The second best day was 19 Oct with 221 birds banded of 24 species. The predominant species that day was Dark-eyed Junco with 85 banded (38.5%) of the total. There were another eight days when over 100 birds were banded. The greatest species diversity occurred on 24 and 26 Sep when 27 species were banded each day.

Of the total new bandings, 86.5% were HY birds. HY percentages for the top ten species were: White-throated Sparrow, 92.8%; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 85.9%; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 85.8%; Hermit Thrush, 91.5%; Gray Catbird, 93.1%; Yellow Warbler, 96.1%; Magnolia Warbler, 89.3%; Slate-colored Junco, 88.5%; Blackpoll Warbler, 62.0%; and American Goldfinch, 48.7%. Up to 39 twelve-meter nets and four six-meter nets were used in the same locations as in previous years. Included in the 39 twelve-meter nets were six double-high net assemblies. Nets were numbered and identified as to their habitat site and the capture time (hour after sunrise to the nearest 0.5 hour) and net number was recorded for each bird handled.

There were record-high numbers banded of six species which included Traill's Flycatcher (36), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (8), Wood Thrush (11), Chipping Sparrow (8), Slate-colored Junco (193), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak (12).

On the negative side, Eastern Towhee was missing for the first time since 1997 and Carolina Wren was missing for the first time since 1999. Rusty Blackbird was missing, after being banded in 23 of the last 28 years.

There were over 1487 birds recaptured during fall 2014, and they were all measured, fat-scored and re-weighed.

There were 54 recaptures of birds from a previous season (90 days or more from same season banding date), as well as three birds recaptured which had been banded at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach MAPS station run by Marian Klik. Noteworthy among these were:

- a Black-capped Chickadee in its ninth year

- an American Robin, a Gray Catbird, and a Yellow Warbler, all in their seventh year
- a Yellow Warbler and an American Redstart, both in their sixth years
- a Warbling Vireo, a Red-eyed Vireo, a Gray Catbird and a Common Yellowthroat, all in their fifth years

Most returns are birds that breed in the general area. Seldom do we recapture a true migrant, but a Blackpoll Warbler banded here in Sep 2012 returned in Sep 2014.

Avian Pox lesions were found on 21 birds of five species, the most (9) being found on both Hermit Thrushes and White-throated Sparrows. Ticks were removed from two birds; lice or mites were found on eight birds. Crossed bills were seen on three Gray Catbirds, a Black-and-white Warbler, and a Song Sparrow. Two birds presented with one eye missing, and three birds were captured with healed leg fractures.

The Mobile Avian Recording Studio trailer was in operation this fall and collected data for Sara Morris' research into night flight calls. We collected blood samples from thrushes and Song Sparrows for Susan Smith Pagano of R.I.T. for her study using plasma indicators of fattening rates and diet to study the migration physiology and stopover site use of these birds. We also collected blood samples from Gray Catbirds, Yellow Warblers and Song Sparrows for Meghan Oberkircher for her study of stress levels in migrating songbirds.

During the fall season, we welcomed students from Alfred University, Canisius College, SUNY Geneseo, University of Rochester, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and Wayne Central School for tours of the banding station. We gave educational programs for groups of home-schoolers, members of the Culture Book Club, the Weather Or Not Garden Club and the Allyn's Creek Garden Club. Seven students completed our Fall 2014 Bander Training Class and three of the Appledore Island (Shoals Marine Lab) banding stations staff spent their annual weekend with us the

third weekend in September. Visitors from 10 states signed our Visitor's Book this fall, as well as guests from Denmark, Scotland and South Africa.

Our fall Research Assistant was Ryan Kayhart, and Jenna Holzschuh was our Field Assistant/Data Tech. Special thanks to volunteer Jeanne Verhulst who helped with data entry.

Thanks to Tom Muller for mowing paths and to Jim Gillette for mowing the field; and to Sue Dougherty, Lyn Jacobs, Willie Norton, Rosemary Reilly and Doug Smith for their help with habitat maintenance. Special thanks to Allan Nash for spreading truck loads of wood chips on our trails. Appreciation to the following individuals who helped scribe, tend net lanes, or assisted with other aspects of our educational or banding operation: Aidan & Madeline, Bob Ames, John Boettcher, Jane Capellupo, Mark Catlin, Barb French, Marilyn Guenther, Kathy Habgood, Gary Herbert, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Terry Perry, the Podulka family, Rosemary Reilly, Sonya Rooney, Lee Schofield, Ruth Stork, Alice VandeMoere, Tom Verhulst and Willem Windig.

A special thank you goes to Bill Kaiser, Nancy Britton and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land.

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The 38th year of fall banding at Alfred Station began on 22 Jul and ended on 5 Nov. One 12-m net and one 6-m net were used on 28 days for a total of 235.5 net hours. A total of 95 birds of 25 species were banded (40.3 b/100nh). In addition, six Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were captured and released unbanded.

The peak day occurred on **30 Oct** when **14 birds** were banded; **21 Oct** was also the day with the most species diversity (**8 species**). There were 26 repeats, and four returns—all chickadees from previous seasons, the eldest two being in their fourth year.

Hippoboscids were found on two birds; a Song Sparrow with Avian Pox was released unbanded.

As in previous years, no birds were banded at this location between 8 Sep and 10 Oct when I was banding at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory.

Banding summaries were sent to regional compilers for the Allegany County Bird Club and the Buffalo Ornithological Society. A program on bird banding was presented to senior citizens in the town of Richburg, NY, in Jul 2014.

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This is an abbreviated report for the fall AFR 2014 due to illness and a very busy work schedule. Nevertheless, I tried to band throughout the fall season.

I started banding on 6 Aug and finished on 9 Nov. The temperature and rainfall were about average through mid-Sep. I encountered one of the first cold fronts in September when I banded the most birds I had for this season: nineteen, for the top day in 2014.

I caught and banded 30 species. Gray Catbirds held their first spot with Dark-eyed Juncos taking over the second spot for the first time since I have been banding at this location. More and more Dark-eyed Juncos seem to be breeding locally in the spring and summer months. This species is present at my bird feeders year around. Warblers are becoming a rarity at my station, with only five species banded this season.

I had seven recaptures: two Gray Catbirds, two Blue Jays, one American Goldfinch, and two Black-capped Chickadees. One Gray Catbird was two years old; the other was a year old. One Blue Jay was seven years old the other was two years old. Of the two Black-capped Chickadees, one was a year old the other was a repeat. The American Goldfinch was four years old.