

2018

Inland Flyway Review- Spring 2018 Report- World Bird Sanctuary

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Finally, I want to thank all our volunteers and staff (listed above) for their work.

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The total number of birds captured in 2018 (1687) was higher than average and the second best spring season overall. The number of species banded (87) surpassed the previous high of 82 species. In addition to the birds banded, another 146 (of 21 species, 14 of which were migratory) were captured as returns and approximately another 400 individuals were captured as repeats. For 17 species there was a notable increase in the number of birds caught; and, for eight species (mostly sparrows and finches), the numbers were considerably lower than in the past. Three new species were added

Without the dedicated support of many volunteers, the station could not operate. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered time at and visited the LLCC BBS. Special thanks (1) to the Lincoln Land Community College for permitting the station on its campus; (2) to Anthony Rothering of the LLCC biology staff for near-daily assistance; (3) to the many regular volunteer assistants (listed in the heading of this report); (4) to everyone who donated “wish list” items for the station; (5) to the many visitors to the station (including many LLCC classes and independent students and faculty); (6) to the Rotary Club of Springfield South and the Phillip’s 66 Company for providing grants, and (7) to several other individuals who made generous donations.

Assistants: Valerie Geile, Samantha Matchefts

The study area for the Migration Blitz is approximately 40 acres of the 310 acre World Bird Sanctuary. This is an oak-hickory forested dry creek northeast facing ravine in an undeveloped area of the sanctuary in the Meramec River Valley (part of the Meramec Valley Important Bird Area). These results are part of a 10-year study started in 2009, focusing on the use of migrants in the study area. For 2018, we had 54 different migrant species with special species: Worm-eating Warbler, Hooded Warbler and Ovenbird. We had 33 Wood Thrushes (one of our target species). In prior years, we have had significant numbers of Tennessee and Nashville warblers. This year, the Tennessee capture rate was triple the Nashville capture rate. During the blitz, we had four rain out dates, which is sort of normal for St. Louis weather.