

2017

## Atlantic Flyway Review: Region I (Northeast) Fall 2016- St Andrews Bird Banding Station

Tracey Dean

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# Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

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## Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) Fall 2016 Report

**Sue Finnegan, Coordinator**

Wing Island Banding Station  
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History  
896 Main St.  
Brewster, MA 02631  
suefinnegan@comcast.net

Seven banding stations reported their results for the 2016 fall season. We welcome reports from two new stations, Kingston Wildlife Research Station from Rhode Island and Birdcraft Banding Station from Connecticut.

It was a cold, wet spring this year with a prolonged period of dry conditions during summer and fall leading to a poor berry crop. The gypsy moth outbreak in the Northeast did not help. Both St. Andrews and Appledore had their lowest record of birds banded; whereas, Wing Island had its best season ever. Manomet had the lowest record of Myrtle Warblers, probably, due to the poor berry crop.

The highest daily catch for most of the stations was later in the season, October and November. Appledore had the biggest catch on 10 Sep, probably because they are closing earlier than years before. The greatest species diversity occurred on 23 Aug for St. Andrews, 10 Sep for Appledore, 11 Oct for Austin, 17 Oct for Wing Island, 12 Oct for Manomet, 5 and 29 Oct for Kingston, and 4 Oct for Birdcraft. Numbers of different species for those

days ranged from 16 at Kingston to 26 at Wing Island. Banders contributed over 47,000 net-hours of effort this season.

Highlights of the season included a very rare Summer Tanager at St. Andrews, a Worm-eating Warbler for Appledore, and large numbers of both Pine and Palm warblers at Austin. Manomet banded another Bell's Vireo; their first was banded last year. Wing Island had a much larger average of Black-capped Chickadees this season and banded their first ever Calliope Hummingbird at a private residence on 26 Oct. Kingston banded a rarity for their state, a Kentucky Warbler; Birdcraft banded a Fox Sparrow on 10 Nov., its last day of banding.

As always, thanks so much to the Region I compilers for taking time out of their busy schedules to put these reports together.

**St. Andrews Bird Banding Station 450-0670**  
New Brunswick, Canada

**Bander: Tracey Dean** (complier)  
Assistants: Sebastian Orue, Kylli Morgan

The 2016 fall migration monitoring season started on 26 Aug and there was almost daily coverage until 6 Oct, when the second volunteer left. After that the nets were only opened on two days; altogether the station was active on 36 days. The weather barely changed during September, with few fronts to concentrate birds or move them along. Here are some summary points from 2016:

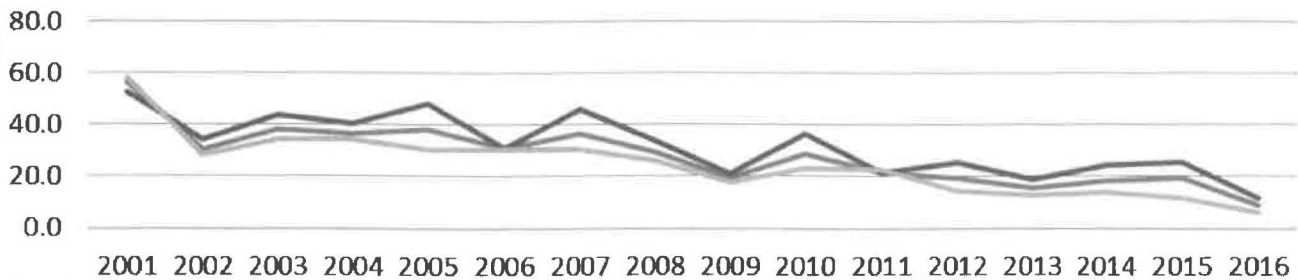
St. Andrews NB	Number	% HY	Appledore Island ME		Austin, Wellfleet Bay MA		Manomet MA		Wing Island MA		Kingston MA		Number	% HY	Birdcraft CT	Number	% HY
			Number	% HY	Number	% HY	Number	% HY	Number	% HY	Number	% HY					
1 AMGO (1)	35		GRCA (1)	142	97% AMGO (3)	161	70% GRCA (1)	544	95% GRCA (1)	461	91% MYWA	158	66% WTSP			78	92%
2 BCCH (3)	27		RBNJ	79	76% BCCH (2)	150	94% BCCH (5)	331	83% MYWA (2)	402	89% GRCA	153	87% GRCA			37	86%
3 AMRE(6)	12		CEDW (7)	69	90% PMA (9)	138	85% BLPW (10)	319	77% BCCH (5)	251	94% COYE	68	90% EAPH			22	90%
4 COYE (5)	11		NOWA (2)	67	70% GRCA (1)	133	95% TUTT (8)	187	88% SOSP (4)	138	88% BCCH	67	69% NOCA			20	60%
5 GCKI (9)	10		REVJ (3)	38	97% MYWA (5)	102	95% WTSP	61	80% NOCA (7)	97	92% BLPW	65	55% AMRO			19	94%
6 AMRO	10		COYE (4)	33	94% BLA (6)	62	75% NOCA (7)	55	76% BLPW (10)	88	92% NOCA	56	68% HETH			17	100%
7 BAWW	9		AMRE (5)	33	88% NOCA (10)	51	91% AMRO	48	69% TUTT (8)	78	99% WTSP	53	53% TUTT			15	73%
8 SWTH	9		PUFI	24	92% RCKI	51	86% BLA	42	93% RCKI	58	95% AMRE	44	75% COYE			13	76%
9 WTSP (4)	8		EAPH	21	95% EABL	46	80% SOSP (4)	41	93% COYE (6)	56	84% AMRO	42	64% SOSP			10	70%
10 REVJ (8)	8		BAWW (8)	20	100% SOSP (4)	46	93% NAWA	34	100% PAWA	49	98% TUTT	35	87% SWTH			9	44%
( ) - Top 10 order from previous year																	

( ) - Top 10 order from previous year

Table 1. AFR Region I - Northeast Fall 2016 Summary							
	St. Andrews NB	Appledore Island ME	Austin MA	Manomet MA	Wing Island MA	Kingston RI	Birdcraft CT
First Day	26-Aug	15-Aug	1-Sep	15-Aug	3-Aug	7-Aug	8-Sep
Last Day	27-Oct	15-Sep	14-Nov	15-Nov	19-Nov	31-Oct	10-Nov
Days Operated	36	32	59	67	45	80	29
No. Nets Used	7 to 15	9 to 10	10 to 22	18 to 50	20 to 35	10	17
Total Nets Hours	2,680	3,817	5,352	26,888	3,323	3,966	1,229
# of Traps Used	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
% of Total Caught in Traps	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<1%	N/A	N/A
# Birds Banded 2015	468	854	1168	1961	2576	1112	334
# Birds Banded 2016	236	745	1432	2128	2236	1112	339
Different Species 2015	46	59	69	72	73	64	36
Different Species 2016	45	53	73	74	72	68	41
Largest Daily Catch	24	68	71	90	206	61	46
Largest Daily Catch Date	26 Oct	10 Sep	10 Nov	18 Oct	27 Oct	25 Oct	4 Oct
Most Common Species on Best Day	BCCH	REVI	AMGO	BLPW	MYWA	MYWA	EAPH
Which was What % Total on Best Day	54%	25%	59%	29%	65%	61%	17%
Date with Most Species Diversity	23 Aug	10 Sep	11 Oct	17 Oct	12 Oct	5 Oct/29 Oct	4 Oct
# of Species on that Day	18	20	20	20	26	16	20
Birds/1000h 2015	19	22	39	7	68	32	27
Birds/1000h 2016	9	20	38	8	56	28	28
Overall % Hatch Year (****) 2015	74%	96%	90%	93%	91%	83%	74%
Overall % Hatch Year (****) 2016	76%	89%	82%	86%	91%	73%	75%
(****) HY% calculated as number of HY/total # of birds banded.							

(\*\*\*\*) HY% calculated as number of HY/total # of birds banded.

## Birds per 100 net hours



- A total of 236 birds were banded – lowest since 2011.
- The birds/100 net-hours (b/100nh) – lowest ever!
- A diversity of 45 species was good – all the regular common species were represented.
- A Summer Tanager captured on 25 Sep was most unexpected. This is a very rare bird in New Brunswick. We have a photo record to document this bird.
- Five Northern Cardinals were banded as this species continues to expand its range out of the town and into the woods.
- The two Chipping Sparrows were the first since 2004.
- All the regular wood warbler species were captured; just in very low numbers.
- A Sharp-shinned Hawk was banded; the first since 2010.
- Downy was the only woodpecker species captured.
- There were no Alder Flycatchers, Swamp Sparrows, or Lincoln's Sparrows.

It was a hot dry summer and fall, with almost drought conditions which led to a poor berry crop and low insect numbers. Jackhammering and noise from more road construction was ongoing throughout the entire banding season. These, combined with habitat changes and fragmentation, all probably played a role in the low amount of bird activity. The only bonus was that the noise also kept the deer away. The construction should be over by next banding season and hopefully the outlook will be a little brighter.

The only species with a positive trend from 2015 to 2016 was American Robin. The number of Black-and-White Warbler, Northern Waterthrush and

Black-capped Chickadee b/100nh did not change much; otherwise, all other species /100nh were lower than 2015.

Thank you to the New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund for providing major financial support for the daily operation of the Station, without which the Station would not be able to operate. Thank you to volunteers Sebastian Orue and Kylli Morgan for their dedication and patience in this very slow banding year. Lastly, thank you to the **Huntsman Marine Science Centre** for the in-kind support.

**Appledore Island**

**425-0703**

**Migration Station**

Appledore Island, York County, ME

**Coordinator: Sara Morris**

**Banders: Peg Ackerson, Liz Burton (compilier), Lindsay Herlihy, David Holmes**

Assistants: Jan Lathrop, Susan Lee, Sally Mack, Betsy Moll, Jeff Ott, Cora Payne, Shelby Southworth, Martha Stauffer, Andy Thiede, Kathy Thompson, Susan Tiholiz, Kiah Walker, Ninfa Yong

The fall 2016 season was the worst on record with only 745 birds banded, well below our average of  $1559 \pm 590$  birds/season. The number of species was also the lowest ever (tied with Fall 2011) with 53 species, well below the average of  $69.7 \pm 9.7$ . Finally, the number of birds per hundred net-hours dropped below 20 for the first time in our history: 19.5 b/100 nh, compared to our fall average of  $36.8 \pm 10.3$  b/100nh. Weather may have had a minor effect on captures this season. While we did not lose any full days of banding, there were rain closures of up to several hours on six days out of 32. The early fall shutdown of the Shoals Marine Lab continues to have the biggest impact on our fall statistics.