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Inland Flyway Review- Spring 2019 Report- Fort Morgan Banding Station

Scott Rush

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Creek, as well as suburban development. There are trails throughout the park, and it is popular with runners, hikers, and dog walkers. Five nets are run in wooded habitat and three are in the overgrown field. Since 2004, banding operations have occurred here from late-March through late-May and late-August through late October, three days per week from sunrise until ~4 hours post-sunrise. Banding demonstrations are periodically conducted for school groups or the local bird club. This year, relentless rain in February and March flooded the banding site and delayed the start of spring banding by 2 weeks. 38 birds were captured which is a 40% increase from 2018, and a 90% increase from 2017. The spring average for all years is 86 birds. The season's best capture was a female Painted Bunting, caught on 3 May 2019. After submitting the spring records to the Bird Banding Lab, I was informed that this was the first Painted Bunting ever banded in Tennessee!

**AL-FORT MORGAN
BANDING STATION**

302-0880

Gulf Shores, Baldwin County, AL

Coordinator/Bander: Scott Rush

Assistant: Eric Soehren and Emma Rhodes

Address: Box 9690, Mississippi State University,
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Email address: scott.rush@msstate.edu

After 20+ years of operation, this station closed in 2014, re-opening again in 2017. Following low numbers of captures in 2017 (comparable to what was captured in 2019), there were considerable captures over the same week period in 2018. Presence of a high-pressure front over the area may have hindered many birds, or assisted migration east or west of the banding station. A significant recapture of 2018 was a White-throated Sparrow banded as an AHY on 27 Mar 2010 at the station, recaptured on 18 Apr 2018. Although fewer birds were banded at the station in the spring 2019 than the spring 2018, there were 525 human visitors in the spring 2019.



White Throated Sparrow photo R.Pantle