

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Individuals	1862	1627
Net Hours	602	392
Species	66	71

It will be seen that in spite of a lot less effort (fewer days of operation and fewer net hours) the overall total was good. Adverse weather contributed mainly to the difference in the number of days of operation. There was a good flight of warblers in August which coincided with winds from the north and bright moonlight the night before. In September the best flight also occurred at the time of the full moon. October saw the largest number of birds banded as that when the myrtle warblers are going through in abundance.

Fluctuations in the numbers of individuals of some species banded in the last two seasons are shown below:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Eastern Phoebe	1	11
Red-breasted Nuthatch	22	52
Cape May Warbler	28	66
Bay-breasted Warbler	5	18
Blackpoll Warbler	47	26
American Redstart	121	76
Slate-colored Junco	72	25

An early invasion of Evening Grosbeaks should be mentioned. Three were mist netted at one of the usual banding stations on October 21 but flocks of 20-30 arrived at feeders in Town. Thinking there might be a total of about 50 we proceeded to band 200 from October 22 through November 16. This number (200) is not included in the total given above as they were caught in a wire trap at a location different from the mist netting stations.

Word has just come from the banding laboratory that a Myrtle Warbler (band #1290-93040) banded at Nantucket October 10, 1972 was trapped and released at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Wildlife Refuge, on the outer beach near Jones Beach, N.Y. four days later, October 14, 1972.

BLOCK ISLAND, R.I. - Elise Lapham

AFR editor: The Block Island station, located near the north end of the island, was in operation Aug.14-Nov.19, and 1710 birds of 74 species were banded in 1612 N/H yielding a respectable 1.06 birds per N.H. An average 8 nets were used on 39 days: 4 in Aug., 10 in September (21st on), 21 days in October and four days in mid-November. Lack of coverage in early September lowered totals of many early migrants, but due to a slight increase in cold fronts this year compared with last year, some species appeared more numerous.

Particularly improved were Red-eyed Vireos (75 to 27 last year) and Catbirds, which totalled 202 this year compared to 63 last year.

Mrs. Lapham comments:

Our peak days were October 14, 16 and 18 with 125, 118 and 133 respectively. One exciting new species for us was a Grasshopper Sparrow. We were overwhelmed with Kinglets the last two weeks in October, 156 Golden-crowned and 92 Ruby-crowned. Also in 1971, Again Myrtle Warblers were most numerous though we only banded 10 from each net check, releasing the others.

Dr. Kenneth Able, from New York University at Albany, used some of our birds in an orientation experiment, holding them over night and releasing them in the morning. He and Richard Ferren, who is compiling a book on Rhode Island birds, also observed the daytime migration of birds from the northern tip of the Island.

At the end of seven years of banding, including some in the Spring, our station total is 21,589 of 138 different species.

We had one foreign retrap, a Myrtle Warbler banded by K. Price near Seaside Park, N.J. Three of our birds were recovered elsewhere.

(Mrs. Lapham's efforts have been of the greatest help in my work on Rhode Island bird distribution. This year operation of nets into late October and four days in mid-November yielded a Gray-cheeked Thrush on October 22 and a Red-eyed Vireo on November 19, both new late dates for Rhode Island. -RLF)

KINGSTON, R.I. - Dr. Douglas L. Kraus

AFR editor: Since no description of this station has ever appeared in EBBA NEWS, we shall attempt to give details: The station is located about a mile east of town on an ancient, overgrown farm. Surrounding areas are heavily wooded with black oak, red maple and white ash, but the immediate area of the house is in an earlier stage of succession, with young black cherry, red maples and much understory of brush and catbrier. Several old apple trees and two evergreens near the house are attractive to transient warblers and Empidonax. The shrubby nature of the habitat near the house creates an island favorable to birds compared to more dense woodland nearby. In addition, a massive bird feeding program attracts many birds which do not frequent the feeders. The area is particularly attractive to the Blue-winged Warbler, which abound in the area, both as breeders and transients. The station has been operating for about 15 years almost singlehandedly by Prof. Kraus.

This year as in previous years, four nets were used in the same locations. These are spread from before daylight until about 9:30 A.M. and again for a period in the evening. These hours and the number of banding days were approximately the same as in previous years, and little change has occurred in the overall pattern of the station's operation. Total birds banded and net hours for the last two years are as follows:

	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	TOTAL	N/H	BPNHx100
1971	345	303	199	847	394	215
1972	265	156	233	654	667	98

There were 117 fewer birds banded in 1972 than in 1971 in some 273 more net hours. The fewer birds in August this year suggests fewer local birds due largely to fewer young reared locally. This is indicated also by a higher proportion of adults to young, although improved skulling technique might be a factor. Below are 15 selected species with total numbers banded in 1971 and 1972 with BPNHx1000 in parentheses:

	1971	1972
Redstart	158 (401)	29 (43)
Black-capped Chickadee	43 (109)	18 (27)
Yellow-throat	86 (208)	69 (103)
Ovenbird	21 (53)	9 (13.5)
Blue-winged Warbler	50 (127)	41 (61)
Least Flycatcher	8 (20)	2 (3)
Cardinal	8 (20)	3 (4.5)
Northern Waterthrush	6 (15)	1 (1.5)
Catbird	64 (162)	69 (103)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	9 (23)	14 (21)
House Wren	18 (46)	22 (33)
Myrtle Warbler	46 (117)	31 (46)
White-throated Sparrow	40 (102)	77 (115)
Swainsons Thrush	0 (0)	5 (7.5)
Connecticut Warbler	0 (0)	2 (3)

These data show significant decreases for all but three species, none of which breed locally. (White-throat has bred rarely). Conversely, all those showing a decrease are regular breeding species in southern New England, and their decrease this year may have been correlated to the unusually long period of cold, rainy weather which prevailed in the East in late June 1972.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Starting with the AUGUST 1973 issue of EBBA NEWS, another person will type the camera copies for the printer. We hope this change will be for the better. It will give the Editor more time to work on correspondence and the immediate preparation of the manuscripts on hand.

We know that no one will be able to make the 1 May deadline, even though that is what is called for on the rear cover. Still, we're going to try to keep it, so that we can get back on schedule. The May issue is six weeks late!

To facilitate these changes, we have no other choice but to ask you for your special help:

1. ALL manuscripts must be typed or printed in block letters, DOUBLE SPACED, on white paper.
2. Your margins should be AT LEAST 1-1/2 inches all around.
3. If you're printing (instead of typing) please use ruled paper, skipping a line between lines (so we can edit your work).
4. No major changes will be accepted once the paper has been accepted for publication.

When we receive a paper or note from you, we will initially acknowledge it. We'll let you know AT A LATER time (usually) whether it will be accepted for publication or not.

We will thereafter edit your paper, possibly review it (if this is called for), suggest changes, and if necessary retype a whole section (this is usually done when corrections and changes are too extensive to be placed between the lines).

The marked up manuscript will then be returned to you. You should then carefully look it over, approve or disapprove changes suggested, rewrite portions if required, etc. We'll give you one week to do this; a due date will appear on the cover letter.

If you return it on time, it will go into the issue specified in the cover letter; if received later than the due-date, it will be held over for the following issue.

We feel this is the most equitable system, both to the author and the editor. This system is in use by the North-Eastern Bird Banding Association (BIRD-BANDING) and it seems to be working very well, so we're going to try it also. The system will benefit the author because he/she'll know exactly what will go into the issue.

F. S. Schaeffer, Editor