

McKEE-BESHERS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (Hughes Hollow), Montgomery Co., Md. - Paul and Joan Woodward

This table summarizes the results of our fourth consecutive year of fall migration banding. One net was added to our standard 10-net set-up, but all comparisons made with 1972 exclude birds caught in this net.

	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
Number of days	1	13	20	16	4	54
Net-hours	155.8	1718.7	2237.3	1561.8	367.3	6040.9
Species	17	41	58	56	24	87
New birds	89	446	751	601	308	2195
Returns	22	60	31	27	14	154
Repeats	0	53	58	62	36	209
New birds/100 net-hrs	57.1	25.9	33.6	38.5	83.8	36.3
Returns/100 net-hours	14.1	3.5	1.4	1.7	3.8	2.6
Repeats/100 net-hours	0	3.1	2.6	3.9	10.6	3.5

In early and mid-August, we netted almost entirely resident birds. After the cold front of Aug. 21, a steady trickle of migrants began and we maintained a fairly constant average of 55 birds/day until Nov. 2 when we caught 200 birds, mainly goldfinches and Robins. Monthly capture rates for new birds in 1972 and 1973 were as follows:

Month	Birds/100 NH		Percent change
	1972	1973	
August	13.8	20.4	+48
September	21.6	29.1	+35
October	58.9	34.6	-41

The August increase was the result of large numbers of breeding birds, especially Catbirds and Wood Thrushes, and suggests that residents left the area early in 1972 and/or produced fewer young because of flooding by Agnes. The September increase was the result of large numbers of transient flycatchers, thrushes, and warblers. October, normally our best month, was disappointing. Sparrows were scarce (or late), and we caught almost no Purple Finches (136 in 1972).

	Birds/100 NH*			Percent of total birds captured			
	1972	1973	change	1972	1973	1972	1973
Flycatchers	1.1	1.7	+54	3	5	36	69
Thrushes (excl. Robins)	1.9	3.2	+68	4.6	10	67	67
Warblers	6.2	7.8	+26	18	25	63	78
Sparrows	9.7	4.5	-54	28	14	62	66

*Warblers and sparrows were calculated using total net-hours for the fall; thrushes, net-hours between July 28 and the end of October; and flycatchers, net-hours between July 28 and Oct. 23.

Notable increases in 1973 were recorded for the Acadian Flycatcher, Catbird, Wood and Swainson's Thrushes, Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Bay-breasted and Canada Warblers, redstart, and goldfinch. Species that decreased appreciably were Tufted Titmouse, Winter Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, Slate-colored Junco, and White-throated and Song Sparrows. The most common of 22 returning species were Song Sparrow (23), Catbird (21), and Indigo Bunting (19).

"Adventure," Potomac, Montgomery Co., Md. - Margaret T. Donald

Fall of 1973 saw the first full-scale banding at Adventure. Banding here is part of a program of wildlife documentation in a nature study area in a future stream valley park in suburban Montgomery County. The study tract is a wooded stream valley with adjacent slopes. Watts Branch crosses the tract from east to west; 100 yards to the north is a county road, beyond which are 12 acres of meadow crossed by two natural hedgerows in draws, and 2 acres of second-growth woodland on a ridge. The major hedgerow and the crest of a ridge are oriented basically NE-SW; regular daytime migration is observed following this leading line.

The number of nets varied from 15 to 25. The most unusual bird was a Bewick's Wren. A large number of Cedar Waxwings (132) reflected a good grape crop. Early dates included a Purple Finch on Sept. 12 and a Myrtle Warbler on Sept. 20. Late dates were recorded for Ovenbird on Oct. 24, and Swainson's Thrush on Oct. 27.

A first group bird-banding demonstration was given for Junior-high students from an area school, and many individuals and small family groups visited the roadside "headquarters" of the banding project. Participating in station operation were: Morrill B. Donald, Harriet S. Gilbert, Ernest G. Meyers, John K. Vance (sub-permittees), and Pixie Christie, John R. Norvell, J. William Oberman, Lutie Semmes, and Edgar H. Smith.

WOODEND, Montgomery Co., Md. - Peter Pyle

Woodend is a 40-acre wildlife sanctuary located in Chevy Chase, Md. It has a great variety of habitats including fields, woods, brush, and a floodplain area adjacent to Rock Creek Park. A creek flowing through the property runs into Rock Creek.

We set up 10 nets along the creek in the floodplain area. The main purpose was to study the birds utilizing this area, but we also participated in A.F.R. The following table compares the statistics of the five months.