

Banding always produces surprises. Species that commonly migrate through northern Florida may be unusual in the subtropical southern area. In 1972 my rarities were a normal four - Acadian Flycatcher, Nashville, Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Dickcissel. But in the doldrums of 1973 I was astonished to list 1 Blue-winged Warbler, 1 Black-throated Green, 1 Black-poll (common in spring but rare in fall), 2 Canadas, 2 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, 2 White-crowned Sparrows, 3 Chestnut-sided and 3 Bay-breasted Warblers. This latter appeared in numbers in north Florida this fall, but is decidedly rare in the south. A grace note was the Ruby-crowned Kinglet first taken 11-14-71 which returned in 1972 on 11-3 and in 1973 on 11-4.

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ATLANTIC FLYWAY REVIEW - REGION I

Edited by Richard L. Ferren

This year the region's reporting banders numbered five rather than seven. Circumstances prevented Barbara Patterson from doing any banding at all on Mt. Desert Island, Maine, although we are promised a full report for 1975. Unhappily, the recent death of Mabel Gillespie of Martha's Vineyard ended a long life devoted to banding work, her contributions to these reports (including last year) being only a small part of her contributions. We would like to dedicate this year's report to her memory and hope that other banders can enjoy as long and fruitful a career in banding.

Feelings were mixed about the merits of this year's fall migration of land birds, but for those who banded regularly there was fairly general agreement that most transient species were encountered in slightly better than last year's numbers, thus perhaps bringing this year's coastal banding up to the status of average, considering the poor showing of last year.

There were, however, few notable incursions or particular scarcities. All stations noted increases and decreases, some marked, but these were often balanced by opposite conditions at other stations, and few general trends seemed evident. There was no flight of Black-capped Chickadees, always a phenomenon difficult to ascertain without banding, and no mass movement of Red-breasted Nuthatches developed, although the flight may have been somewhat better than last year. The latter nearly hit an all time low at Block Island with a season's total of two, while ten were banded in the pine grove at Nantucket. Extraordinary numbers noted by this editor in the Maine woods in November clearly showed that the majority of northeastern birds remained on the breeding grounds.

In all, station leaders seemed to think that the fall migration was decidedly ordinary on average, although substandard in some cases and slightly better in others, both in numbers of birds caught and in the sprinkling of unusual birds. Station reports follow.

Manomet Bird Observatory, Mass. - Kathleen S. Anderson, Exec. Dir.

After the rather active spring migration at M.B.O. when we benefited from unusually persistent westerly winds and banded 3,078 birds from 1 Apr. - 31 May, early indications might have led us to expect a poor fall migration.

The fall flights of both Black-bellied Plover and all scoter species showed low numbers of juvenile birds compared with 1973, a sign of a poor breeding season in the extreme north, but as it turns out our fall migration of land birds on the M.B.O. property was close to the average since 1969, and showed a marked increase over the "below average" fall of 1973.

From 1 Aug. - 15 Nov. 1974 we recorded data on 10,155 birds: 6,348 new bandings plus 3,807 repeats and returns. Approximately 49 nets were used on 88 days in sites similar to those used in previous years.

TABLE I New Fall Bandings

SEASON	NO. BANDED	NET HOURS	B.P.N.H. x 100
7 Aug. - 31 Oct. 1969	4,828	31,178	15.5
1 Aug. - 31 Oct. 1970	7,127	40,575	17.6
1 Aug. - 23 Nov. 1971	10,424	44,906	23.2
1 Aug. - 15 Nov. 1972	6,684	38,153	17.5
1 Aug. - 15 Nov. 1973	5,458	41,301	13.2
1 Aug. - 15 Nov. 1974	6,348	37,533	16.9

After a fairly slow banding period through Aug. and Sept. the migrants reached a peak in Oct. with the main falls being 300 birds handled (including repeats) on the 1st, 372 on the 8th, 339 on the 9th, 346 on the 19th and 322 on the 21st. With few exceptions banding totals for all species showed an increase over the fall of 1973 with no particular group of birds outstanding, although both Golden and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were banded in record numbers and the Tufted Titmouse total of 80 this fall was 278% above the average for the previous five years. The higher species totals are shown below for the years 1971 - 74 with B.P.N.H. x 1,000 in brackets to eliminate variations in netting from year to year.

TABLE II. Species Totals 1 Aug. - 15 Nov. 1971 - 74 (plus B.P.N.H. x 1,000)

SPECIES	1974	1973	1972	1971
1. Yellow-rumped Warbler	1,400 (37.3)	632 (15.3)	1,304 (34.2)	847 (18.9)
2. Gray Catbird	864 (23.5)	633 (15.3)	809 (21.2)	608 (13.6)
3. White-throated Sparrow	565 (15.1)	455 (11.0)	532 (13.9)	159 (3.5)
4. Golden-crowned Kinglet	312 (8.3)	196 (4.7)	235 (6.2)	86 (1.9)
5. Blackpoll Warbler	277 (7.4)	258 (6.2)	463 (12.1)	1,131 (25.2)
6. American Robin	266 (7.1)	163 (3.9)	424 (11.1)	245 (5.5)
7. Black-capped Chickadee	226 (6.0)	979 (23.7)	166 (4.4)	4,549 (130.7)
8. Dark-eyed Junco	202 (5.4)	145 (3.5)	272 (7.1)	89 (2.0)
9. Song Sparrow	158 (4.2)	151 (3.7)	258 (6.8)	191 (4.2)
10. Red-eyed Vireo	138 (3.7)	155 (3.8)	203 (5.3)	149 (3.3)

More unusual birds banded this fall include Sharp-shinned Hawks on 6 Oct., 30 Oct., 7 Nov.; a Broad-winged Hawk at our Edison Site 3 miles N. of MBO on 2 Aug. and one at MBO on 14 Aug.; 2 Saw-whet Owls on 12 Oct., one on 7 Nov.; Yellow-billed Cuckoo on 10 Sept.; Olive-sided Flycatcher on 29 Aug. (our first in any fall); increased House Finches with 8 in Aug., 10 in Sept., 2 in Oct., and 2 in Nov.; Seaside Sparrows on 30 Aug. and 12 Sept.; Northern Shrikes on 25 Oct. and 11 Nov.; 4 Golden-winged Warblers from 18 Sept. to 4

Oct.; 5 Connecticut Warblers from 11 Sept. to 4 Oct.; and 3 Hooded Warblers on 1 Oct. (2 at the Edison Site). Apart from these unusual birds we were able to obtain good views of a Peregrine on 17 Oct. as it flew past circling above the bluff, while an immature Blue Grosbeak caught on 23 Sept. and one caught at the Edison Site on 15 Oct. were new records for the Observatory.

--Trevor L. Lloyd-Evans, Staff Biologist

Nantucket, Massachusetts - Edith Andrews

The Nantucket Banding Station operated in the same areas as in times past, i.e., a small Japanese Black Pine woods, edge of freshwater marsh, hedgerow and garden. The station operated ten days in September ranging from September 6-27, and fifteen days in October between the 1st and 28th. No banding was done on many days due to a lack of proper weather conditions so necessary to bring the birds to the island. A total of 1017 birds of 59 species were banded in 240 net hours, using 1-4 nets per day. Total birds banded was about 100 more than last year, but these were captured in only 25 banding days compared with 34 for last year, indicating either an increased migration this year or greater skill in knowing which days to operate the nets. In general, however, neither of the last two fall migrations have been outstanding on Nantucket and cannot be compared to 1968, when 1,958 birds were banded.

Yellow-rumped Warbler again led the list of most numerous birds with a total of 554 (only 314 last year); next Song Sparrow (63), Am. Redstart (48), Golden-crowned Kinglet (46), Cape-May Warbler (38), Gray Catbird (29) and Blackpoll Warbler (23). Of interest was a female Scarlet Tanager with a hooked upper mandible. Also two adult Black-throated Blue Warblers were unexpected, since most of the warblers coming through this station are immatures. A Veery on October 1 was a surprise, and a White-eyed Vireo on October 27 was exceptionally late. In general, however, the fall banding was quite unexceptional. There were no flycatchers banded and very few observed. There were no really big days, no new species and no rarities.

Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts - Grace C. Meleney

This station, formerly called "East Chop, Martha's Vineyard", operated daily from September 10 - October 8. Locations used this year were the old area at East Chop, where the majority of birds were trapped rather than netted because of prevailing windy conditions, and another location in West Tisbury, on an old farm near the center of the island. Most birds were netted rather than trapped at the latter location. In all, 182 birds were banded in 595 hours of effort, here including both net and trap hours. Most numerous birds banded at the combined locations were Black-capped Chickadee (55), Mourning Dove (21) and Palm Warbler (20). The most unusual birds were a Lincoln's Sparrow on September 16 and a Traill's Flycatcher on the rather late date of October 4. Of particular interest was a Common Grackle, banded as an adult male on June 24, 1965 and recaptured July 5, 1974, never having returned previously, but establishing a minimum age of 10 years. Numerous chickadees and other species which were banded by the late Mrs. Mabel Gillespie, at East Chop were "recovered" at my East Chop location, a continuing reminder of her many years of fruitful devotion to bird-banding.