

Club. On 15-16 Aug, David Liittschwager visited the station as part of his "One Cubic Foot" project. Number of guests visiting the station this fall was 306, including visitors from 11 states, England, France, Italy, Ontario and Quebec.

Three students completed our Summer 2015 Advanced Workshop, six students completed our Fall 2015 Bander Training Class, three students undertook independent-study banding classes, and seventeen students from Cornell spent their annual weekend with us assisting with station operation. On 2-4 Oct, Braddock Bay Bird Observatory hosted an NABC certification session with seven candidates and five NABC-certified trainers.

Banding was done by licensed banders David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Mark Deutchlander, Ryan Kayhart, Peggy Keller, Marian Klik, Tom Klotzbach, Cindy Marino, Sue Smith Pagano, Andrea Patterson, Emily Patterson, Doug Smith, and John Waud. Banding assistants were Claire Buck, Kevin Eckert, Jenna Holzschuh, Greg Lawrence, Gayle Lazoration, Pat Lovallo, Maggie MacNeil, Ann Nash, Jim Saller, Leanna Twohig, Alison Van Keuren, Barb Wagner, Julia Whittle, and Aggie Windig.

Thanks to Steve Maley for mowing and home maintenance, Jim Gillette for mowing the field and grading the driveway, and Tom Muller for mowing paths; to Bob Ames, Lyn Jacobs, Willie Norton, and Doug Smith for their help with habitat maintenance; to Allen Nash for spreading wood chips on our trails, to John Boettcher and Marilyn Guenther for installing blackout shades in the EWB Education Center; to Joanna Klima for mending nets; and to Jeanne Verhulst for helping with data entry. Ryan Kayhart was our Research Assistant.

Much appreciation goes also to all our faithful volunteers who scribe and tend the nets: John Boettcher, Jane Capellupo, Kim Denise, Barb French, Marilyn Guenther, Kathy Habgood, Ann Hauser, Gary Herbert, Julie Kleinhans, Dave Mathiason, Chita McKinney, Nancy Murty, Willie Norton, Lee Schofield, Judy Snell, Sue Sosik, Ruth Stork, Alice VanDeMoere, and Tom Verhulst.

A special thank-you goes to Bill Kaiser, Nancy Britton and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land.

Alfred Station 421-0774
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The 39th year of fall banding at Alfred began on 15 Jul and ended on 21 Nov. One 12-m net and one 6-m net were used on 50 days, for a total of 396.75 net hours. A total of 77 birds of 22 species were banded (19 b/100nh). In addition, six Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were captured and released unbanded.

The peak day occurred on 23 Oct when eight birds of two species were banded; 8 Nov was the day with the most species diversity (four species). There were 19 repeats. There were five returns—all chickadees from previous seasons—the eldest two being in their third year and the other three in their second year.

Hypoboscids were found on a Brown-headed Cowbird. No birds were observed with Avian Pox.

As in previous years, no birds were banded at this location between 14 Sep and 16 Oct when I was banding at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory.

Banding summaries were sent to regional compilers for the Allegany County Bird Club and the Buffalo Ornithological Society. Some banding data was used in a program on avian population changes and land use that I presented to patrons of the library in the town of Cuba, NY. in Jul 2015.

Northview Sanctuary 421-0762
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Fall 2015 banding started at Northview in late Jul and went through the middle of Nov. There were 29 banding sessions and 200 new bandings, 11 returns and 9 repeats.

The weather during the late summer and early fall lacked cold fronts that are needed here for migrants,

with the exception of the last week in Sep, when I had good capture totals.

Agricultural practices are changing the southern tier of New York state, and fields that were fallow for many years around the five acre plot that I band on are being cultivated and corn planted to be used for ethanol. Field birds, like Eastern Meadowlarks, Bobolinks, Field Sparrows, and Savannah Sparrows which were once common are now missing. In addition, the patches of wood lots that are left are growing back to mature forest. As a result, I band fewer and fewer warbler species here at Northview.

Of the 11 returns, one Northern Cardinal (9 years old) had an aluminum band, worn very thin, which was replaced with a stainless steel band. In addition, there was a 3-year-old Blue Jay, two 2-year-old Gray Catbirds, a 2-year-old Common Yellowthroat, a 2-year-old Black-capped Chickadee, and a 2-year-old Song Sparrow.

Thanks to my sub-permittee, Anne Cooke, for her help aging, sexing, and recording this fall.

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McGill Bird Observatory (MBO) in Montreal is a full member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, and the only station in Quebec to conduct standardized spring and fall migration banding programs. MBO is operated by the Migration Research Foundation (MRF), a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of wildlife movements, especially as they relate to population monitoring and conservation.

In 2015, MBO operated its eleventh full Fall Migration Monitoring Program (FMMP), covering for the first time our usual 13-week period from 1 Aug through 30 Oct and an extra week from 31 Oct to Nov 6, recognizing that some species are moving earlier than when we started in 2005. A one-hour

census trail was walked daily, and nets were open for five hours beginning at sunrise except when limited by inclement weather; three days were lost and 33 days of banding were partly shortened due to rain and/or high winds. As a result of the generally favorable conditions, the banding effort of 7,093 net hours was above average. Typically all 16 nets were operated daily this fall. All nets are 12-m Manomet passerine nets, on standard 3-m poles. This fall, bander-in-charge duties were primarily handled by Simon Duval and Gay Gruner.

The total of 3,151 individuals banded during the FMMP and 2015 was below the long-term average, of 3,870 for the season and even well below the average of 3,348 when excluding the two years with totals inflated by exceptional counts of Yellow-rumped Warblers. Repeats (724) were average while returns (66) were a little bit above. The 84 species banded is well above the average range, while the number of species observed (151) is above the ten-year fall mean of 144.

White-throated Sparrow took first place this fall with 326 individuals banded, while American Robin came in second with 263 individuals banded and Ruby-crowned Kinglet closed the top three with 257 individuals banded. No new species were banded this fall. The MBO total still stands at 115 species. A cumulative list of all species banded at MBO is updated after every season at:

<http://www.oommbo.org/results/banding-totals/>

As usual, our peak period extended roughly from mid-Sep to mid-Oct, and our tenth week (3 Oct – 9 Oct) was the busiest, with 352 individuals banded. This fall was all about diversity; on a record 44 days, the daily estimated total was at least 50 species, including nine days with more than 60 and one day at 70 species. No new species were observed for the site, so the all-time checklist for MBO still stands at 212 species.

Although not included in our Fall Migration Monitoring Program totals, we also operated our Northern Saw-whet Owl program, during which we banded 273 Northern Saw-whet Owls, plus three foreign recoveries. Only one other owl species was banded, an Eastern Screech-Owl, on 6 Oct.