

most commonly banded species at just over 15,000. Myrtle Warbler, KVBO's third most commonly banded species at just fewer than 35,000, was in low numbers, 271 at PF, 146 at MA, in 2015. Myrtle Warblers are always high in numbers and have trended up in recent years: at MA from 1990 - 2008 captures averaged 78 per year and from 2009 - 2014 captures have averaged 247, while at PF captures averaged 443 per year for the period 1990 - 2008 and averaged 559 for the years 2009 - 2014. While habitat management has something to do with this upward trend, I believe it has more to do with the Myrtle Warbler. American Goldfinch, KVBO's most commonly banded species with just over 39,000 banded, was in low numbers at PF (393) in 2015 yet was still our most commonly banded species this fall. American Goldfinch is just the opposite of Myrtle Warbler in that numbers and trails are switched. From 1990 - 2008, PF averaged just 149 American Goldfinch and for 2009 - 2014 captures have averaged 536 per year. MA on the other hand averaged 437 for 1990 - 2008 and then rose to an average of 595 for 2009 - 2014. This year MA had 784 which is the second highest on that trail since 1990.

Ticks continue to be a focus at PF and our collaborations with Michigan State University and Texas A&M continue. Please visit naturecenter.org to see some of our publications including our latest: Keith, R. S., B. S. Keith, W. C. Scharf, and S. A. Hamer. 2015. *Ixodes brunneus* (Acarina: Ixodidae) from two bird hosts: A new Michigan tick. *Great Lakes Entomologist* 48:201-204.

Lincoln Land Community 394-0893

College Banding Station

Springfield, Sangamon County, IL

Coordinator: *Vernon Kleen*

Banders: *Vernon Kleen and Anthony Rothering*

Primary Assistants: Tyler Beckerman, Elizabeth Erickson, Joe Gardner, Anna Kozlov, Jim Mordacq and Libby Roehrs

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Although this was the fourth fall banding season at this location, it was only the third "full" season. The

station's habitats consist of four components: a) an older, regenerated deciduous woods with a thick honeysuckle understory and a slightly sloped ravine with a narrow, shallow stream that flows from the campus lake (below the dam) to Lake Springfield (off campus); b) a woodland edge next to a crop field or mowed grassy lane; c) a small, managed prairie; and d) an area in the vicinity of a group of bird feeders close to the campus lake. With the station based at a local community college, dozens of classroom students visited the station as part of a lab assignment or for extra credit. Weather, especially strong southerly and/or westerly winds and rain, affected the season's potential results by forcing the early closure of the nets or the failure to open them at all on several days. In addition to the 2,047 birds banded, there were 57 returns and 572 repeats. The station owes its success to a cadre of dedicated volunteers and substantial financial support including an anonymous donor who provided us with a Polaris "Bird Mobile".

Whigg Meadow 352-0840

Robbinsville (NC), Monroe County, TN

Coordinator: *Scott Rush*

Banders: *Scott Rush, Jay Dedeker and Nelson Edwards*

Primary Assistants: Charlie Muse, Eric Soehren and Aung Chan

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The number of birds banded and species diversity were down from previous years but the number of visitors to site totaled about 250 individuals to learn about bird migration, bird banding and Whigg Meadow. Included among these visitors were classes from several schools and universities located in the surrounding states. Extension of new net lanes in high elevation heath habitat was completed and run through the season, producing additional captures of typical species. The Whigg Meadow Station has been run for 18 yr. The Swainson's Warbler captured on 31 Aug was the most recent new species for the station.