

the fall of 2017 that was recaptured in the nets on the hill this spring. Another migrant was a Gray-cheeked Thrush caught last fall and recaptured this spring. The catch of the season was a male Prairie Warbler in breeding plumage making it the second one caught in two years.

Finally, I want to thank all our volunteers and staff (listed above) for their work.

**Lincoln Land Community College 394-0893  
Bird Banding Station (LLCC BBS)**

Springfield, Sangamon County, IL

**Coordinator: Vernon Kleen**

Banders: Vernon Kleen and Anthony Rothering  
Assistants: Paul Biggers, Mel Breyer, Joe Gardner, Wayne Huckabee, Anna Kozlov, Jim Mordacq, Nic Morgan, Asya Rahlin, Nancy Redman, Andrew Sharp, Susan Shaw and Kelsey Thornton.

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The Lincoln Land Community College Bird Banding Station (LLCC BBS) has been in operation each spring and fall since the fall of 2012. The 2018 spring season was the sixth spring season. The station's habitats and general description were described in the 2015 IFR fall report and the net locations remained pretty much the same over the years. The 2018 season was typically windy, cool (even cold on some occasions) and damp. Migrant birds were slow to arrive and quick to depart and several expected species were neither caught nor seen this spring.

The total number of birds captured in 2018 (1687) was higher than average and the second best spring season overall. The number of species banded (87) surpassed the previous high of 82 species. In addition to the birds banded, another 146 (of 21 species, 14 of which were migratory) were captured as returns and approximately another 400 individuals were captured as repeats. For 17 species there was a notable increase in the number of birds caught; and, for eight species (mostly sparrows and finches), the numbers were considerably lower than in the past. Three new species were added

to the station list (Black-billed Cuckoo, Scarlet Tanager and Vesper Sparrow) bringing the station total to 122.

Without the dedicated support of many volunteers, the station could not operate. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered time at and visited the LLCC BBS. Special thanks (1) to the Lincoln Land Community College for permitting the station on its campus; (2) to Anthony Rothering of the LLCC biology staff for near-daily assistance; (3) to the many regular volunteer assistants (listed in the heading of this report); (4) to everyone who donated "wish list" items for the station; (5) to the many visitors to the station (including many LLCC classes and independent students and faculty); (6) to the Rotary Club of Springfield South and the Phillip's 66 Company for providing grants, and (7) to several other individuals who made generous donations.

**World Bird Sanctuary 382-0903**

Valley Park, St. Louis County, MO

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Assistants: Valerie Geile, Samantha Matchefts

The study area for the Migration Blitz is approximately 40 acres of the 310 acre World Bird Sanctuary. This is an oak-hickory forested dry creek northeast facing ravine in an undeveloped area of the sanctuary in the Meramec River Valley (part of the Meramec Valley Important Bird Area). These results are part of a 10-year study started in 2009, focusing on the use of migrants in the study area. For 2018, we had 54 different migrant species with special species: Worm-eating Warbler, Hooded Warbler and Ovenbird. We had 33 Wood Thrushes (one of our target species). In prior years, we have had significant numbers of Tennessee and Nashville warblers. This year, the Tennessee capture rate was triple the Nashville capture rate. During the blitz, we had four rain out dates, which is sort of normal for St. Louis weather.