
The Klamath Bird Observatory 2005 Banding Report

The Klamath Bird Observatory's (KBO) mission is to advance bird and habitat conservation through science, education, and partnerships. Since 1997, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service Redwood Sciences Laboratory (RSL), we have coordinated the Klamath Monitoring Network, a group of partners that employ standard bird monitoring techniques at stations throughout the Klamath Bioregion of northern California and southern Oregon. As a part of this effort in 2005, KBO operated 15 constant-effort stations (CES).

Our protocol includes mist net arrays, banding, area search and point count censusing, vegetation surveys, and DNA sampling and is consistent with the recommendations of Partners In Flight (PIF) and North American Banding Council (NABC) standards. The CES efforts begin in May and continue through October, inclusive of the landbird breeding and fall migration seasons. Our flagship CES at Ashland, Oregon is operated throughout the year.

Combined 2005 totals from these CES include 10,099 birds of 107 species captured during 12,430 net hours and 439 area search censuses completed during 255 efforts. Distribution, abundance, and demographic information are gathered for over 200 species in the Klamath Bioregion, including many PIF conservation focal species.

The five top species captured were Song Sparrow, Oregon Dark-eyed Junco, Fox Sparrow, Purple Finch, and Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler. Rare or unusual captures included a Black-and-white Warbler at an Upper Klamath Lake site in June and a Wilson's Warbler in December at our site in Ashland, OR. The former is considered a regular transient west of the Rocky Mountains and for the latter this is the second record of the Rogue Valley of southern Oregon during the winter months.

In 2005, 11 college-level intern students, including two international students, received experiential instruction in bird banding and survey methods. Also, biologists from partnering land management agencies were provided training in banding

techniques totaling 36 person-days. KBO provided assistance to Klamath Network cooperators and other regional researchers that totaled 14 person-days. KBO reached several hundred students (K-12, college) and community members through outreach and education opportunities that are associated with our field efforts.

In August we hosted an advanced banding workshop at our Upper Klamath Lake field station for 18 banders. In October, KBO biologists assisted in an advanced banding course hosted by ProAves Colombia at Isla San Andrés, Colombia. We coordinated five individual NABC Certification Evaluation sessions during 2005 and cooperated on an RSL-coordinated group session with our affiliate, Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory. From these evaluations, 15 individuals were certified at the Bander or Bander Trainer level.

Data resulting from these efforts are contributed to several databases including the USGS Bird Banding Laboratory, Institute for Bird Populations' Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship program, Klamath Monitoring Network, North American Migration Monitoring Network of the Americas, and University of California, Los Angeles Center for Tropical Research. This effort is made possible through support from the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Oregon's Jackson and Klamath Counties, Southern Oregon University, and KBO contributors.

Visit KBO's website at: <http://www.klamathbird.org>.

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