

male Eurasian Wigeon which spent about a week at the marsh this spring. This was a first Seneca County record but a second individual was also found in the northeastern part of the county at the same time.

The list of species at the marsh currently stands at 245, with two additional races and two exotic or escaped species. Uncommon species observed this year include Eurasian Wigeon (spring), Common Goldeneye (winter), Wild Turkey (spring), Semi-palmated Plover (summer), Least Sandpiper (summer), Pectoral Sandpiper (summer), Whip-poor-will (fall), Olive-sided Flycatcher (spring), Louisiana Waterthrush (spring), Summer Tanager (summer), Purple Finch (spring and fall), and Pine Siskin (spring).

The **2009 Banding Team, Banders** were: H. Thomas Bartlett, David Dariano, James Marshall, Dan Webb; **Extractors:** Yvonne Cecil, Steve Henthorne, John Lortz, Brian McClain, Eric Mullholand, Ron Minard, Shane Roberts, Bob Sams; **Assistants:** Zac Baker, Paula Bartlett, J R Drushel, Kim Howard, Pete Klopp, Laura Roberts, Ron Saklosky

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2009 Banding at Kelleys Island, Ohio

The year 2009 marks the 14th year of this bird banding/avian research project on Kelleys Island. The banding project began in the spring of 1996 in conjunction with the Kelleys Island Audubon Club's "Nest with the Birds" program. The monthly census route was begun in November of 1997. All research activities have been sponsored and supported by the Kelleys Island Audubon Club, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Helen Morse, Pat and Lori Hayes, Lee and Sandy Tkach, Bill and June Campbell, Delores Cole, Fred Walcott, Kyle and Jeri Yoest, and the Kelleys Island School.

Passerine banding activities this year were conducted primarily on Long Point at the Jones Preserve owned by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and land owned by Helen Morse. In addition, feeder banding was conducted at the Inn on Kelleys Island owned by Pat and Lori Hayes. Owl banding was conducted at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Scheele Preserve. There were also three days of special banding projects involving Purple Martins and Tree Swallows. Purple Martin banding was conducted at the Kyle and Jeri Yoest colony on the east side of the island. For the year, 63 species and 520 individual birds were banded over 25 days.

The plan was to attempt more owl banding in March and April, but weather conditions and the ferry schedule prevented any attempts in March and one night in April did not produce any owls. Fall owl banding began on the evening of 24 Sep and basically ended on 28 Nov. One night was attempted in September on Long Point, seven nights in October at Scheele Preserve, and eight nights in November at Scheele Preserve. In September, only one owl was captured, a red phase Eastern Screech-Owl. In October, four owls were captured (two Eastern Screech-Owl and two Northern Saw-whet Owls), all at the Scheele Preserve. In November, 33 owls were captured. Of these, five were saw-whet owls banded earlier in the season, so 28 Northern Saw-whets Owls were banded this month. Owl banding throughout the Midwest was somewhat of a disappointment for most banders, but on Kelleys we had a fairly good fall. This was our second best owl banding season to date.

The passerine banding on Long Point began on 15 May. We banded for seven days on Long Point this year. We banded for seven days on Long Point this year. We had two days in the spring, two days in the summer for a class from Stone Lab, and three days in the fall. In that time, we banded 301 individuals of 53 species. This is the second most birds we have banded on Long Point since we began in 1996. It brings the total number of birds banded on Long Point to 2917 individuals. In addition, we banded eight days at the feeders at the Inn on Kelleys Island.

There we banded 55 individuals of nine species. We also banded on two special occasions, 15 Jun and 10 Jul. On 15 Jun, Pat Hayes and I checked the bluebird/swallow boxes on the island and banded 25 young Tree Swallows. In July, Pat was contacted by Kyle Yoest, who had a Purple Martin house on his property and was monitoring it. He wanted to know if we could band the young.

For 2009, 520 individual birds of 63 species were banded. Highlights for the year start with the banding of a Clay-colored Sparrow on Long Point, 16 May. This was the 102nd species banded on the island. We continued to monitor the Yoest's martin colony and banded 74 young birds. Kyle was able to read the band on an adult bird at the colony. It was one of the young we banded last year. Unusual banded species include: two Acadian Flycatchers, an Eastern Kingbird, a Wood Thrush, a Northern Parula, two Hooded Warblers, and a Song Sparrow. In total, we have now banded 4126 individuals birds of 102 species in 14 years. On Long Point alone, we have banded 2917 individuals of 94 species over the years. In 2009, we handled 576 individual birds—520 were banded, 41 were recaptured, 13 escaped or were released before banding and two casualties. The casualties were placed in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

One of the major reasons for banding birds is to recapture them. Recaptures tell us things like: how long they may live, migration site fidelity, and breeding site fidelity. During the course of banding this year, we recaptured 29 previously banded birds. Of these individuals, 14 were banded earlier in 2009, 11 in 2008, 3 in 2007, and one in 2006. Of these 29 individuals, 11 are considered species which migrate to or from the island and 18 are considered permanent residents of the island. The highlight recapture of the year was an adult Great Crested Flycatcher caught on 15 May. This bird was banded 30 May 2004 by Black Swamp Bird Observatory at Navarre Marsh west of Port Clinton. This is a six-year-old bird and one of the oldest Great Crested Flycatchers on record. A second

highlight recapture has to be the male Yellow Warbler recaptured on 3 Jul. He was banded on 20 May 2006 as an after-second-year male. At a minimum, this individual is six years old. Other noteworthy recaptures include a Downy Woodpecker, Black-capped Chickadee, and Northern Cardinal which were all banded in 2007.

The year 2009 marks the 12th year of the monthly census on the island. The census was begun in November of 1997. After some preliminary scouting of potential census routes, I set up the census route on the island which has been used since. The census is conducted some time during the third week of the month (if possible) and run the same every month. Generally it takes about five hours to do the route, some of which is done from the car and some on foot. The route has been run every month since November 1997 except January and February 2000, when I was unable to get to the island. As of the end of 2009, the route has been run 144 times. Birds of 245 species have been observed on census day over the last 12 years. The route gives a snapshot of what birds may be found using Kelleys Island each month.

This year was the third best year as far as number of species observed. We recorded 166 species over the 12 runs. The highest recorded count was in 2005 of 177 species and 2003 recorded 152 species, the lowest. The twelve year average has been 163 species. Highlights of the 2009 year include our first Broad-winged Hawk in May and first Snowy Owl in January. Other unusual sightings included White-winged Scoter, Yellow-breasted Chat, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Common Redpoll.

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