
ATLANTIC FLYWAY REVIEW: Region IV Piedmont—Coastal Plain, Fall 2009

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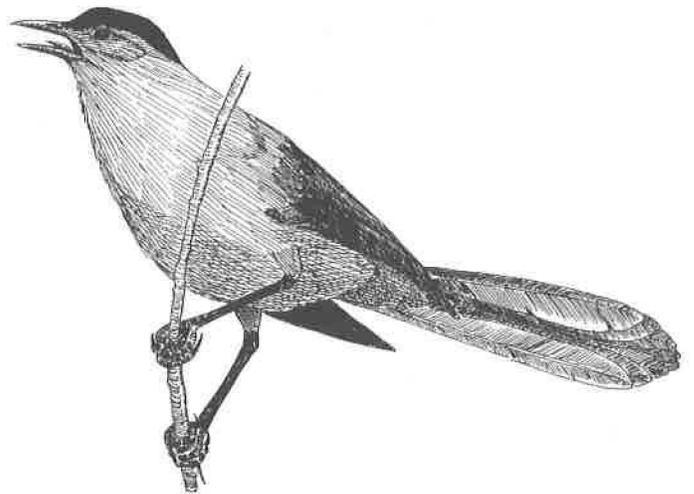
USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

Laurel, MD 20708-4000

Region IV is pleased to welcome two new coastal stations in 2009, Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge and Kiawah Island, SC, as well as reports from all the stations that had participated in recent years. Most stations reported numbers slightly down from prior years, the exception being Tomoka, which enjoyed perfect weather and had their best fall season in six years. As usual, tables 1 and 2 show the effort at each station and the summary for the ten most commonly banded species.

From the Dakotas east to Maine and West Virginia this was “the year without a summer” as an historic sustained period of cool temperatures five to nine degrees below normal engulfed the entire area throughout July. One might anticipate that populations of common invertivorous migratory birds that nest in this region could be sufficiently depressed that banders in the southeast would catch smaller numbers or fewer young birds than normal. All seven of the migratory invertivorous species that were listed in 2008’s table 2 from five or more stations were reported in smaller numbers in 2009 than would have been predicted from the one percent decline in net-hours in 2009; but only the Hermit Thrush and the Common Yellowthroat showed a decline in the percent of HY birds (table 3). In spite of numerical declines, all of these species except the Gray Catbird and Myrtle Warbler showed an improvement in rank among the top ten species. The comparisons in table 3 are based on the 11 stations that were operating in both 2008 and 2009. Apparently nesting during June was so successful, at least for these species, that numbers remained close to normal.

Following a dry July in the southeastern states, August was consistently warm and wet with no temperatures below 60°F. at Laurel. In September, coastal areas were plagued with heavy rains but not with hurricanes. The first hint of a temperature dip came on 20 Sep with a reading of 51° F., followed by more fifties on the last five days of the month, which brought the best day of the season to four southeastern stations. An early snowstorm from upstate New York to Maine on 15-17 Oct sent a surge of migrants on their way and resulted in peak days at seven southeastern stations.



Gray Catbird by
George West

	Eden Mill	Laurel	Patuxent	Foreman's Branch	Chincoteague	Eastern Shore
First Day	5 Sep	19 Aug	17 Aug	2 Aug	4 Aug	15 Sep
Last Day	5 Nov	29 Nov	17 Nov	30 Nov	9 Nov	30 Nov
Days Open	7	49	42	80	30	57
No. Nets Used	11.5	13	26	10-100	4-10	15
Net Hours	311	2149	3555	40,286	360	4503
No. Best Day	68	25	132	528	47	427
Best Day Date	23 Oct	19 Sep	23 Oct	19 Oct	22 Oct	12 Oct
Most Species	15	8	22	42	6	33
Most Spec Date	25 Sep	12 Sep	20 Sep	31 Aug	8 Nov	5 Oct
Banded 2008	225	248	1787	9271	538	0
Banded 2009	188	234	1902	10,076	165	7860
Species 2008	34	41	75	116	41	0
Species 2009	32	41	75	111	28	83
B/100nh 2008	70.5	10.6	46.4	23.4	111	0
B/100nh 2009	72.5	10.9	53.6	25	45	174.6
% HY 2008	73%	65%	74%	82%	97%	0
% HY 2009	76%	68%	73%	86%	93%	91.5%

	Kiptopeake	Lighthouse Creek	Kiawah Island	Jekyll Island	Tomoka	Cape Florida	Lakeshore Estates
First Day	18 Aug	1 Sep	26 Aug	4 Oct	17 Aug	15 Aug	4 Sep
Last Day	22 Nov	26 Nov	24 Nov	18 Oct	30 Nov	6 Nov	15 Nov
Days Open	93	20	21	15	49	87	67
No. Nets Used	24	10.5	6-8	15	4-10	9-19	4-6
Net Hours	10,901	940	760	407	2141	6837	2056
No. Best Day	384	79	104	93	24	193	10
Best Day Date	20 Oct	30 Sep	1 Oct	17 Oct	30 Sep	30 Sep	15 Oct
Most Species	23	18	19	14	11	26	7
Most Spec Date	5 Oct	30 Sep	6 Oct	17 Oct	30 Sep	30 Sep	15 Oct
Banded 2008	6726	697	0	1225	321	2179	133
Banded 2009	4119	462	804	632	314	1685	164
Species 2008	91	63	0	41	35	63	28
Species 2009	89	50	52	33	43	59	29
B/100nh 2008	59.2	79	0	254	12.2	35	5
B/100nh 2009	37.8	49	107	158	15	27	8
% HY 2008	90.1%	89.2%	0	93%	65%	45.6%	65%
% HY 2009	91.4%	94.2%	83%	85%	64%	56.8%	74%

Table 2. AFR IV. Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, Fall 2009

	Eden Mill			Laurel			Patuxent			Foreman's Branch			Chincoteague			Eastern Shore		
			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY
1.	58	WTSP(1)*	62	31	NOCA(1)	68	254	WTSP(2)	58	1539	WTSP(1)	82	81	MYWA(1)	100	5032	MYWA	92
2.	26	GRCA(2)	77	30	WTSP(4)	72	249	RCKI(3)	88	991	SOSP(2)	86	10	GRCA(2)	70	625	GRCA	98
3.	14	SWSP(3)	93	16	GRCA(2)	62	235	GRCA(1)	80	691	RCKI(7)	87	10	NOCA	90	298	WTSP	69
4.	11	CARW(5)	100	15	HETH(3)	73	103	COYE(5)	52	599	AMGO(8)	82	8	SOSP(8)	75	229	SWSP	93
5.	11	NOCA(5)	64	14	CACH	54	82	MAWA(7)	59	398	COYE(5)	66	6	GCKI	100	218	COYE	93
6.	9	SOSP(4)	100	13	ETTI(9)	69	80	SCJU(6)	74	387	SCJU(6)	79	5	EAPH	100	161	AMRE	95
7.	8	ETTI(5)	100	13	AMRO	69	79	HETH(8)	86	350	GRCA(4)	85	5	BAWW	100	122	NOPA	98
8.	5	SCJU	80	10	CARW(8)	70	74	REVI(4)	77	326	INBU(10)	83	4	COGR	100	120	SOSP	88
9.	5	MYWA	80	10	OVEN(6)	80	55	EATO(9)	67	310	FISP(9)	88	4	SWSP(3)	100	93	PAWA	97
10.	5	CACH	100	9	WOTH	89	45	SOSP(10)	70	303	MYWA(3)	60	4	CARW	100	69	GCKI	N/A

* () Indicates placement on list in 2008.

Table 2 (cont.d). AFR IV. Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, Fall 2009

	Kiptopeake			Folly Island			Kiawah Island			Jekyll Island			Tomoka			Key Biscayne			Tallahassee		
			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY			% HY
1.	1726	MYWA	91.6	138	GRCA(1)	93	171	GRCA	92	209	COYE(2)	97	67	MYWA(2)	81	365	BTBW(1)	62	56	NOCA(1)	88
2.	376	GRCA	96.3	60	COYE(3)	92	142	COYE	85	145	WPWA(1)	86	41	COYE(1)	47	253	OVEN(3)	60	14	WEVI(2)	43
3.	226	AMRE	93.4	47	AMRE(5)	89	90	MYWA	90	80	GRCA(3)	93	31	GRCA(3)	81	194	AMRE(2)	40	13	GRCA(5)	75
4.	168	SOSP	91.1	22	WEVI	82	45	REVI	89	56	PABU(4)	88	26	REVI(9)	77	118	BAWW(4)	45	10	VEER(10)	60
5.	144	COYE	84.0	14	NOMO	100	43	NOCA	63	23	BTBW(7)	83	17	BTBW(6)	59	114	GRCA(6)	80	9	WOTH(6)	45
6.	106	WTSP	82.1	12	HOWR(10)	75	42	AMRE	90	21	AMRE(5)	75	15	WEVI(4)	87	95	COYE(7)	80	9	CACH(5)	90
7.	100	HETH	88.0	11	NOCA(9)	82	41	BTBW	78	17	HOWR(6)	59	15	OVEN(5)	27	92	WEWA(5)	35	5	BLJA	100
8.	98	BTBW	88.8	11	CARW	82	28	WEVI	79	12	INBU	95	13	NOCA(7)	69	71	NOWA	54	4	RCKI(8)	67
9.	88	SWSP	90.1	10	OVEN	100	17	CARW	41	10	NOWA(10)	60	10	CARW	30	55	NOPA(8)	54	4	HETH	50
10.	83	VEER	78.3	10	PRAW	100	16	RCKI	88	9	NOCA(8)	11	8	NOWA	38	45	WEVI	55	4	HOFI	50

* () Indicates placement on list in 2008.