
Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) – Fall 2009 Report

Sue Finnegan, Coordinator
Wing Island Banding Station
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
896 Main St.
Brewster, MA 02631
suefinnegan@comcast.net

We had seven banding stations send in their results for the 2009 fall season. Welcome back to SW-Laurentian Mts, returning after a year hiatus. No fall banding occurred at Atlantic Bird Observatory but we have a new station reporting this year, Dam Pond Maritime Reserve in New York state.

Weather conditions seemed favorable for the most part this fall. All of our more northerly stations (SW Laurentian Mts, St. Andrews, Appledore, Manomet, and Wing) reported a drop in birds per 100 net hours (b/100nh), while the more southerly stations (Dam Pond and Island Beach) had a slight increase.

Largest daily catch dates spanned over a few months with 25 Aug being the earliest date at SW Laurentian Mts and the latest, 15 Oct at Island Beach. Appledore had to close down early during the fall season for the second year in a row.

Highlights this year included an increase in warblers at St. Laurentian Mts., above-average numbers for Swainson's and Hermit thrushes, a Northern Saw-whet Owl, and an Eastern Phoebe at St. Andrews. A Kentucky Warbler and possible hybrid of an American Redstart and Yellow Warbler excited those at Appledore. Manomet recorded infrequent banding of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and two Rusty Blackbirds not captured since 1994. New banded species for Wing Island were a Townsend's Warbler, Seaside Sparrow, and an Allen's Hummingbird at a home in Scituate, MA. Island Beach reported 26 Tree Swallows and a new banded species—a Purple Martin.

A big thank-you goes out to all the compilers for sending in their reports during a busy time period.

SW-LaurentianMountains 455-0743
Wentworth-Nord, Quebec
Bander: *Peter H. Homann*

Having been unable in 2008 to visit our retreat at a lake in the Laurentians, I was glad to be back in 2009. As in previous years, I positioned nets between shrubs and young trees at the shore of the lake and along an unpaved road in the understory of mixed woods. Unfortunately, the total effort in net-hours was only about one half of what it usually has been in the past. This was due in part to conflicts with other activities and limits imposed by age-related mobility, but also to rain and/or wind that often forced furling of the nets. Moreover, dictated by the present structure of the netting lanes, I only used 6-m and 9-m nets but adhered to a definition of a 12-m net length representing one net when calculating net hours.

Already, in previous reports, I suggested that the banding activity at my location in the Laurentian Mountains may no longer contribute meaningful data to the Atlantic Flyway Review because of the small numbers of long-distance migrants I capture. It was reassuring, however, that flocks of roving warblers, albeit relatively small ones, could be observed near our cottage and elsewhere with more regularity during our stay in 2009 than in 2006 and 2007. On the other hand, sparrows were unusually scarce. I captured only two Song Sparrows and not a single White-throated Sparrow, even though these two species typically are familiar sights on our property and nearby. Similarly disappointing was the absence of a Hermit Thrush from my list of banded birds—the first time ever. Perhaps all of this was a local phenomenon of no general significance—or maybe not.

Table 1. AFR Region 1 - Northeast Fall 2009 Summary

	SW Laurentian Mountains	St. Andrews, NB	Appledore Island, ME	Manomet, MA	Wing Island, MA	Dam Pond Reserve, NY	Island Beach SP, NJ
First Day	29 Jul	4 Aug	14 Aug	18 Aug	7 Aug	2 Sep	25 Aug
Last Day	2 Sep	30 Oct	14 Sep	12 Nov	21 Nov	4 Dec	22 Nov
Days Operated	31	51	31	58	42	44	47
No. Nets Used	3 to 5	6 to 14	9 to 10	7 to 50	13 to 34	1 to 3	4 to 18.25
Total Net Hours	468	2427	3726	18,000	5370	116	2374
No. Traps Used	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
% of Total Caught in Traps	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	<1%	n/a	n/a
No Birds Banded 2008	n/a	927	1208	1942	1926	309	2668
No. Birds Banded 2009	105	472	908	1137	1954	383	2248
Different Species 2008	n/a	58	67	76	80	33	84
Different Species 2009	24	46	56	69	73	33	73
Largest Daily Catch	15	29	88	114	229	19	445
Largest Daily Catch Date	25 Aug	9 Oct	6 Sep	28 Aug	11 Oct	13 Oct	15 Oct
Most Common Species on Best Day	AMGO	RCKI	CEDW	GRCA	MYWA	MYWA	GCKI
Which was What % Total on Best Day	25%	38%	11%	88%	51%	53%	52%
Date with Most Species Diversity	25 Aug	7 Aug	6 Sep	5 Oct	9 & 21 Oct	13 Nov	2 Oct
No. of Species on That Day	6	21	25	22	24	10	26
Birds/100nh 2008	n/a	30	28	8.1	43	250	81
Birds/100nh 2009	22	17	24	6.3	36	330	95
Overall % Hatch Year (**) 2008	n/a	82%	95%	88%	90%	n/a	86%
Overall % Hatch Year (**) 2009	75%	83%	95%	86%	86%	65%	90%
% Hatch Year (***)							94%

(***) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total No. of birds banded.

(**) HY% calculated as number of HY/Total No. of known-age birds.

Table 2. Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region 1 - Northeast, Fall 2009

	SW Laurentian Mountains			St. Andrews, NB			Appledore Island, ME			Manomet, MA		
	Species	# Birds	% HY	Species	# Birds	% HY	Species	# Birds	% HY	Species	# Birds	% HY
1	AMGO	18	5%	WTSP (2)	53	94%	NOWA (1)	134	92%	GRCA (1)	338	95%
2	BCCH	15	80%	COYE (4)	40	83%	GRCA (3)	115	97%	MYWA (5)	116	94%
3	MAWA	11	100%	SOSP (3)	34	91%	COYE (4)	66	94%	WTSP (6)	96	70%
4	MYWA	7	86%	GCKI (5)	28	76%	BAOR	61	98%	AMRO (4)	70	70%
5	REVI	7	86%	SWTH	27	92%	AMRE (6)	60	95%	GCKI	35	74%
6	BLJA	5	80%	HETH (8)	25	96%	CEDW (8)	55	81%	AMRE	33	100%
7	AMRO	5	100%	RCKI	23	90%	YWAR	43	93%	HEIH	30	77%
8	BAWW	4	75%	MAWA (6)	22	86%	SOSP (9)	40	100%	SOSP (10)	29	83%
9	BINW	4	75%	AMRE (10)	21	76%	REVI	35	97%	COYE	23	100%
10	CAWA	4	100%	SWSP	16	88%	YBFL (7)	33	100%	RCKI	23	48%
10				BCCH (1)	16	100%	BAWW (5)	33	100%			

(#) = Top 10 order from previous year.

Table 2 (cont'd). Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region 1 - Northeast, Fall 2009

	Wing Island, MA			Dam Pond Reserve, NY			Island Beach SP, NJ			
	Species	# Birds	% HY	Species	# Birds	% HY	Species	# Birds	% HY*	% HY**
1	MYWA (1)	621	97%	GRCA	105	62%	GCKI (1)	558	95%	92%
2	GRCA (2)	472	89%	BCCH	56	63%	RCKI (8)	274	95%	89%
3	SOSP (3)	144	92%	MYWA	37	89%	GRCA (2)	258	92%	92%
4	AMGO (6)	98	85%	WTSP	35	86%	MYWA (5)	173	88%	86%
5	SWSP (5)	71	100%	SWSP	31	100%	COYE (6)	119	89%	87%
6	BCCH (7)	67	91%	AMGO	18	33%	WTSP	116	78%	78%
7	NOCA	63	92%	ETTI	15	38%	BRCR (4)	86	97%	69%
8	ETTI	36	97%	NOCA	13	77%	SOSP	67	94%	93%
9	COYE	33	79%	SOSP	11	55%	SWSP (9)	48	85%	85%
10	AMRO	33	91%	COYE	10	30%	SCJU	48	94%	94%

(#) = Top 10 order from previous year.

* = % HY for known age birds.

** = % HY for all birds