
Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central) Fall 2010

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Welcome back to Bob and Chita McKinney who were able to open their Steuben County station for the first time in several years. That area is a black data hole in New York bird movement and so very important to our knowledge of migration routing. We wish that this site could be operated permanently.

Congratulations to Braddock Bay and Kestrel Haven for completing their 25 years as AFR contributors! Braddock celebrated with a record season, while Kestrel Haven was beaten down to lowest-ever totals by unceasing winds. The latter describes a very interesting return from the Canadian west coast.

Border control is a big issue but we think it was taken too far when the several thousand Myrtle Warblers banded by McGill were not allowed to visit us in New York. It will be interesting to see if they appeared in large numbers along the northeast and mid-Atlantic coast. It sure would be nice to aggregate all of AFR into one report/issue. That would present a much clearer picture of the migration.

Northview did very well and even accounted for Pine Siskins, Evening Grosbeaks, and Bob's second American Crow. The latter can prove a handful, as Bob evidently learned.

Vestal shared the weather woes with the additional insult of a feral cat that would not leave the net lanes. Solutions to such a problem seem easy on the surface but...when it's probably the neighbor's cat?

This is yet another positive for the American Bird Conservancy "Cat's Indoors" program. Lots of suggestions there on how to handle such a problem.

Anchoring the east of our transect and on the outboard side of the Catskills, our senior station, Ellenville, also had a season with low numbers following a very wet winter. Valerie Freer gives a nice run down of the weather and its effects.

Ms. Freer was also the leader in what has become a major contribution by the members of this group to Project Owl-net. Although not included in AFR accounting, MBO and Kestrel Haven joined Ellenville in accounting for 311 Northern Saw-whet Owls, 10 saw-whet foreign recoveries, four saw-whet returns, three Eastern Screech-Owls and one Barred Owl, all banded as these diurnal stations tried nocturnal extensions! Now they are all hibernating for sure.



Barred Owl by Josh Bortz

Table 1. AFR II Summary of Operations - Fall 2010

	Braddock Bay	Alfred Station	Spring Hill	Kestrel Haven	Northview	Vestal	Ellenville	McGill Bird Observ.
Start Date	10 Jul	1 Jul	12 Jul	15 Jul	20 Jul	30 Jul	2 Aug	1 Aug
Stop Date	17 Nov	4 Nov	29 Sep	3 Dec	20 Nov	7 Oct	6 Nov	30 Oct
Total Days	73	30	6	67	41	29	40	91
Number of Nets	up to 35 ?	1 to 1.5	6	1 to 15	1 to 6	?	6 to 8	10 to 16
Net Hours	11,063	235	145	1,617	273	864	1,031	6,061
No. Best Day	424	48	22	75	31	21	26	315
Best Day Date	20 Oct	4 Nov	21 Sep	19 Sep	24 Oct	18 Sep	13 Aug	25 Sep
Reason Best Day	96% BCCH	48% BCCH	41% BCCH	46% AMGO	?	GRCA	15% GRCA & 15% REVI	81% MYWA
Best Diversity	34 on 15&21 Sep	7 on 4 Nov	8 on 21 Sep	20 on 26 Sep	7 on 5 dates	9 on 18 Sep	15 on 13 Aug	29 on 9 Sep
Banded 2009	4,342	78	na	1,735	193	168	325	3,390
Banded 2010	6,814	83	83	1,622	404	305	343	6,808
Species 2009	88	23	na	80	36	30	49	74
Species 2010	94	20	18	83	28	41	55	77
B/100nh 2009	34	25	na	107	61	46	32	58
B/100nh 2010	62	35	83	135	148	67	33	112
% HY 2009	82%	69%	na	86%	72%	83%	63%	85%
% HY 2010	89%	57%	45%	96%	74%	90%	68%	89%

Table 2. AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2010												
Braddock Bay			Alfred Station			Spring Hill			Kestrel Haven			
	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
1.	WTSP (1)	1,459	93%	BCCH (2)	31	61%	BCCH	32	22%	AMGO (1)	291	82%
2.	BCCH (6)	1,118	91%	AMGO (3)	12	17%	COYE	10	60%	SOSP (2)	186	97%
3.	GCKI (3)	360	94%	SOSP (4)	6	56%	GRCA	8	38%	GRCA (4)	167	95%
4.	RCKI (2)	321	80%	SCJU (1)	6	14%	HOWA	5	38%	WTSP (7)	110	100%
5.	YWAR (8)	321	97%	WBNU	4	33%	SOSP	5	60%	COYE (3)	100	83%
6.	MAWA (4)	295	91%	GRCA (5)	4	25%	CSWA	4	50%	BCCH (10)	84	96%
7.	BLPW	280	82%	CHSP (6)	4	100%	OVEN	4	25%	SCJU (6)	67	63%
8.	GRCA (7)	230	97%							EWCS	51	75%
9.	HETH (5)	217	93%							HOFI (8)	41	88%
10.	SWTH	176	86%							RBGR (5)	35	77%
% of Total Banded			70.0%			81.0%			82.0%			70.0%
Notes: (#) - Indicates ranking fall 2009 n/a - not attempted												

Table 2 (cont.'d). AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2010												
Northview			Vestal			Ellenville			MBO			
	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
1.	SCJU (5)	93	86%	GRCA (1)	82	95%	GRCA (1)	61	89%	MYWA (7)	2,359	94%
2.	GRCA (1)	64	81%	BCCH (2)	36	94%	COYE	20	60%	SCJU (2)	509	87%
3.	BCCH (8)	52	69%	SCJU	26	81%	BCCH (5)	20	75%	BCCH (6)	440	97%
4.	HOFI	39	74%	AMGO	24	88%	GCKI (4)	19	59%	AMRO (5)	394	78%
5.	PISI	21	66%	REVI (5)	20	60%	WTSP (8)	18	28%	WTSP (1)	351	94%
6.	AMGO (6)	19	32%	NOCA	19	84%	SCJU (2)	17	47%	RCKI (4)	271	68%
7.	NOCA (9)	15	40%	SOSP (4)	17	59%	OVEN	15	87%	MAWA (8)	260	85%
	SOSP (2)	15	73%									
8.	WTSP	10	60%	WTSP	11	36%	MAWA	12	83%	SOSP (3)	219	94%
9.	BLJA	9	55%	HOFI	10	20%	HETH (6)	11	73%	NAWA (15)	161	86%
10.	ETTI	6	66%							AMRE (8)	149	89%
% of Total Banded			66%			82.0%			60.0%			89%
Notes: (#) - Indicates ranking fall 2009 n/a - not attempted												