

audio lure for all captures. These data were reported to Project OwlNet.

Our eldest return was an American Goldfinch that was eight years old. Of the 70 returns, 18 of nine species were in excess of four years of age. They shred out as follows:

One Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at 4.
Six Black-capped Chickadees at 4,4, 5, and 6.
Two Eastern Tufted Titmouse at 4.
One Gray Catbird at 4.
One American Robin at 4.
Two Red-eyed Vireo at 5 and 6+.
One Yellow Warbler at 4.
One Slate-colored Junco at 4, and
Three American Goldfinch at 4, 5, and 8.

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Northview Sanctuary
Candor, Tioga County, NY
Robert J. Pantle
bpbird@frontiernet.net

421-0762

This fall season's banding efforts started on 20 Jul and ended on 20 Nov, for a total of 41 banding days/sessions. I used one to six mist nets for a total of 273 hours and banded 404 birds. My species count was very low, as I tallied only 28 species, a drop of eight species from my previous year. However, on the bright side, I banded just over twice the number I banded in the previous year because of increased effort.

This station had a total of 24 repeats/returns this fall of ten species. Of note were three Black-capped Chickadee returns: one four years old, one three years old, and one two years old; additional returns were one Gray Catbird three years old, one Northern Cardinal three years old, and one Song Sparrow three years old.

Banding was slow through the middle of October, and I thought that the season was comparable to the very slow season last year. Things improved considerably from 16 Oct on, as I had a very good flight of Slate-colored Juncos, banding 93 from 16 Oct until the end of banding in November. This flight of juncos was responsible for almost one quarter of all the birds banded at this station. In addition, Pine Siskins showed up about the same date and I managed to band 21 of them from 20 Oct to 20 Nov.

A nice surprise at the feeders on the 2 Nov, was a small flock (5) Evening Grosbeaks showed up. As these birds only stayed for about three days at the feeder, none were banded. We have resided at our current address for just over half a century, and 1991 was the last recorded time Evening Grosbeaks were present at our feeders. A paper was given a few years ago at the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs' annual meeting in Owego, NY, using the data that I had accumulated on banding Evening Grosbeaks. After 1991, Evening Grosbeaks seem to have vanished or at least were not present at many central New York state feeders and in the Northeast, from that point on. It was a treat to have these colorful finches at our feeders even for a few days.

Along with the presence of the Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins as highlights of the season, I had one other interesting capture. To some, it may seem mundane, but I assure you that capturing and banding an American Crow is an experience. Only the second crow I have ever banded.