

Table 2. AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2011

Braddock Bay			Alfred Station			Kestrel Haven			Northview			MBO		
Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
BLPW(7)	760	86%	SCJU(4)	11	50%	GRCA(3)	103	77%	GRCA(2)	60	55%	MAWA(7)	252	89%
WTSP(1)	551	95%	WTSP	10	88%	SOSP(2)	98	89%	AMGO(6)	31	65%	WTSP(5)	214	99%
PISI	311	84%	CHSP(7)	7	71%	WTSP(4)	84	81%	SOSP(7)	22	55%	TEWA(11)	203	83%
HEIH(9)	210	94%	BCCH(1)	4	60%	COYE (5)	68	75%	INBU	20	95%	RCKI(6)	180	92%
RCKI(4)	193	93%	EWCS	4	100%	AMGO(1)	62	88%	BCCH(3)	10	90%	SOSP(8)	171	94%
GCKI(3)	176	98%				RCKI	32	59%				AMRE(10)	150	91%
GRCA(8)	164	94%				CEDW	23	43%				NAWA(9)	139	83%
MAWA(6)	132	88%				BCCH(6)	23	96%				YWAR(1)	108	84%
COYE	97	86%				DOWO	21	100%				COYE(12)	80	91%
GCTH	96	79%										AMRO(4)	79	91%
% of Total Banded	67.0%				60.0%			65.0%			73.0%			89%

Note: (#) - Indicates ranking last fall.

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory 431-0774
Kaiser-Manitou Beach Station
 Monroe County, NY
Compilers: Elizabeth W. Brooks and Ryan Kayhart
 brookser@earthlink.net

The 26th consecutive year of fall banding at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station began on 2 Aug 2011 and ended on 28 Oct 2011. Banding was done by licensed banders Dave Alexander, David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Mark Deutschlander, Kelly Dockery, Jon Dombrowski, Kyle Horton, Ember Jandebour, Erin Karnatz, Ryan Kayhart, Coby Klein, Marian Klik, Tom Klotzbach, Cindy Marino, Robert McKinney, and John Waud. Banding assistants were Virginia Duffy, Laura Evans, Andrew Garland, Peggy Keller, Gayle Lazoration, Pat Lovallo, Andrea Patterson, Doug Smith, Leanna Twohig, Barb Wagner and Monika Wood.

Weather permitting, banding was carried out for at least six hours beginning at dawn every day between 20 Aug and 28 Oct. All or parts of four days were lost due to rain and/or wind. Banding was also done on six days prior to the intensive banding

period, for a total of 12,899 net hours on 71 days. There were 3,992 birds banded of 88 species, our lowest total since 1998. Twenty-seven Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were released unbanded (last date, 19 Sep). Worm-eating Warbler was a new species for the fall list; the fall cumulative total is now 127 forms. The season's overall capture rate was 30.9 birds per 100 net hours (b/100nh) compared with 61.6 b/100nh in 2010.

The best day was 5 Oct, when 518 birds of 22 species were banded. Of the 518 birds banded that day, 311 (60%) were Pine Siskins! The second best day was 3 Oct, when 212 birds were banded, and there were seven days when over 100 birds were banded. The greatest species diversity occurred on 3 Oct, when 30 species were banded.

Of the total new bandings, 87.8% were hatching-year (HY) birds. HY percentages for the top ten species were: Blackpoll Warbler 85.5%; White-throated Sparrow 95.0%; Pine Siskin 83.7%; Hermit Thrush 93.8%; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 92.5%; Golden-crowned Kinglet 98.0%; Gray Catbird 94.0%; Magnolia Warbler 88.3%; Common Yellowthroat 86.4%; and Gray-cheeked Thrush 79.0%.

Up to 35 12-m nets and four 6-m nets were used, most in the same locations as in previous years. Included in the 35 12-m nets were six double-high net assemblies. Nets were numbered and identified as to their habitat site and the capture time (hour after sunrise to the nearest 0.5 hour) and net number was recorded for each bird handled.

There were 1,075 birds recaptured during fall 2011, and they were all measured, fat-scored, and reweighed. Information on two birds that returned from an earlier season at an age of five years or more is as follows: Common Yellowthroat in its seventh year and Gray Catbird in its sixth year.

Avian Pox lesions were found on 20 birds: Hermit Thrush (9); White-throated Sparrow (6); one each on a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Blackpoll Warbler and Common Yellowthroat. Hippoboscids were found on a Hermit Thrush; lice on four Golden-crowned Kinglets; and a tick on a White-throated Sparrow. A tumor or deformity was noted on the bills of a Common Yellowthroat, White-throated Sparrow, Blackpoll Warbler, and Slate-colored Junco. A Hermit Thrush presented with crossed bills. A Blackpoll Warbler was missing its left foot, and two White-throated Sparrows were missing their left eyes!

A Wilson's Warbler banded on 12 Sep 2010 was recaptured and released alive on 15 Oct 2011 by Manuel Grosselet in Marsh Area, Pantano Santa Alejandrina, two mi (about 3 km) NE of Minatitlan, Veracruz-Llave, Mexico! The distance between BBBO and the recapture site is approximately 1,980 miles (3,186 km)!

There were record-high numbers banded of Yellow-billed Cuckoo (3), European Starling (31), Blackpoll Warbler (760), and Pine Siskin (311). For the second fall in a row, we had good numbers of Rusty Blackbirds (42). On the negative side, Red-breasted Nuthatch was missing after being banded in 21 of the past 25 years; Western Palm Warbler was missing after being banded in 17 of the past 25 years; and Hooded Warbler was missing

after being banded in 15 of the past 25 years. We had the lowest number of Song Sparrows, Lincoln's Sparrows, and American Goldfinches in the past 15 years; the lowest number of Slate-colored Juncos in the past 14 years; and the lowest number of White-throated Sparrows in the past 13 years.

Sara Morris, and her student Kyle Horton from Canisius College, in collaboration with the Powdermill Banding station and the Powdermill Bioacoustics Lab, tested Blackpoll, Magnolia, and Yellow-rumped warblers and White-throated Sparrows in the Mobile Avian Recording Studio (MARS) parked at the banding station. Their goal was to study flight-calling behavior. Specifically, they were interested in how different cues affect calling by migrants and whether calling rate is increased in response to conspecific calls.

We collected blood samples from thrushes, Blackpoll Warblers and White-throated Sparrows for Susan Smith of the Rochester Institute of Technology for her study using plasma indicators of fattening rates and diet to study the migration physiology and stopover site use of these birds.

On 20 and 21 Aug, we welcomed guests for a tour of the banding station as part of Braddock Bay Raptor Research's Red-tailed Hawk Day. A large group of home-schooled students and their parents visited on 16 Sep and we enjoyed visits from students in Mark Deutschlander's seminar at Hobart & William Smith Colleges on 18 Sep and Dave Holtzman's SUNY Geneseo Class on 24 Sep. Kristi Hannam's Animal Behavior Lab at SUNY Geneseo visited on 28 Sep. Part of the Appledore Island (Shoals Marine Lab) banding station staff visited on the weekend of 8-9 Oct. We welcomed a class of high school BOCES students on 18 Oct.

People from eight states signed our visitor's book this fall, as well as guests from France and Canada.

Our fall Research Assistant was Ryan Kayhart; Jenna Holzschuh was our Field Assistant, and Heather Calabrese our Data Tech. Special thanks to volunteers Monika Wood and Jeanne Verhulst who helped with data entry.

Thanks to Tom Muller for mowing paths and to Jim Gillette for mowing the field; and to Kelly Dockery and the Garden Committee, Chris Gates, Carolyn Jacobs, Steve Maley, Doug Smith, Sue Smith, Carol Southby and Aggie Windig for their assistance with building and grounds management. Appreciation to the following individuals who helped scribe, tended net lanes, or assisted with other aspects of our educational or banding operation: Peg Ackerson, Marygrace Barber, Cathy Belair, John Boettcher, Jane Capellupo, Bill Clark, Marilyn Guenther, Kathy Habgood, Gary Herbert, Kathleen Holt, John Lehr, Sarah Maclean, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Ann Nash, the Padulka family, Emily Patterson, Terry Perry, Debbie Reed, Sonya Rooney, Linda Rossi, Lee Schofield, Justin Stilwell, Ruth Stork, Andy Thiede, Alice VandeMoere, and Jeanne and Tom Verhulst.

A special thank-you goes to Bill Kaiser, Nancy Britton, and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land.

Alfred Station 421-0774
Allegany County, NY.
Bander: Elizabeth W. Brooks
brookser@earthlink.net

The 35th year of fall banding at Alfred Station began on 14 Jul and ended on 13 Nov 2011. One 6-m net and one 12-m net were used on 53 days, for a total of 327 net hours. A total of 60 birds of 20 species were banded (18.3 b/100nh). In addition, two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were captured and released unbanded. A list of the top birds banded appears in Table 2.

Hatching-year percentages for all birds where age could be determined was 70.7%. Hatching-year percentages for the five most common species were Slate-colored Junco, 50%; White-throated Sparrow, 87.5%; Chipping Sparrow, 71.4%; Black-capped Chickadee, 60.6%; E. White-crowned Sparrow, 100%.

The peak day occurred on 25 Oct, when 12 birds were banded; 50% of those banded were Chipping Sparrows. The days with the most species diversity was also 25 Oct and 3 Nov, with four species banded. There were 14 repeats during the season.

There were four returns from a previous season. They included a Black-capped Chickadee in its second year and another chickadee in its first year; a Gray Catbird in its third year; and an American Tree Sparrow in its second year.

No birds exhibited evidence of Avian Pox. A Blue Jay presented with the top third of its upper mandible broken off.

As in the previous ten years, no banding was done at this location from 11 Sep to 17 Oct when I was banding at Braddock Bay. During August, banding was not possible on several days due to the presence of a cat.

Banding summaries were sent to regional compilers for the Allegany County Bird Club, Buffalo Ornithological Society, and the Atlantic Flyway Review. A banding demonstration was held at Foster Lake on 10 Sep.

Spring Hill Wildlife Sanctuary 423-0772
Prattsburgh, Steuben County, NY
Bob McKinney

We regret the death of Bob McKinney this summer. Chita and family have our prayers and condolences. This is the final report from Spring Hill.

Kestrel Haven 423-0772
Avian Migration Observatory
Burdett, Schuyler County, NY
Banders: John and Sue Gregoire
khmo@empacc.net

This was our 26th fall AFR season and the worst ever! We started as usual around July 4th but quickly shut down due to an intense heat wave. As that abated, I suffered a personal injury that put me