



Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central) Fall 2012

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I regret to report the loss of another station. Our long-time station in Vestal, NY, (Powderhouse Rd) operated by Gail Kirch, and previously with her mother Harriet Marsi, has ceased AFR operations. Thanks to Gail for many decades of fine and important reporting.

Valerie Freer did not run her station (Ellenville) for passerines this year and is unlikely for next. Kestrel Haven operated on a much abbreviated schedule and is also uncertain for next season. Northview and Alfred Station operated on abbreviated schedules. Braddock Bay and MBO continue as our two "super-stations" and do fantastic work. Kestrel Haven had a wonderful capture of a Whip-poor-will to make up for an otherwise lackluster season.

Many new stations and young banders are needed. I hope that those conducting training sessions and certifications are encouraging new banders toward establishing a station and joining the AFR cooperative research effort. Without a cadre of up and coming stations, we are in big trouble.

We very much welcome new stations and I urge you to contact me for assistance in getting started.

Thankfully, a few schools have made it a point to use the resources of our banding stations and their leadership is aware, albeit peripherally, in most cases. Braddock Bay's work with several schools has been exemplary! EBBA and the NABC need to extend that awareness to university campuses where many biology professors remain unaware of the banding associations, *NABB* and cooperative projects like AFR. I believe we have to reach out to professors, undergrad and graduate students in order to remain viable. EBBA should make this a top priority in upcoming years.

Many of our stations participated in Project OwlNet this year. Those data are not included in AFR summaries, as lures are used. The contributions of region II stations to this effort have been great and this year was fantastic. Braddock Bay initiated a saw-whet owl program and banded 84 at that site and another 22 at a second location to the south. Kestrel Haven banded 243 new saw-whets and Ellenville contributed 122. MBO added another 249 owls! That is 720 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded in the region and most stations also banded other species as well. Owl encounters and returns were also terrific this year and showed the migration route from Ontario and Quebec through New York in at least two flyways before entering Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia; some go as far as Alabama and Georgia! The overall network effort this year documented a huge migration which we believe to be the result of a very good breeding season and a high survival rate.

Table 1. AFR II Summary of Operations - Fall 2012

	Braddock Bay	Alfred Station	Kestrel Haven	Northview	MBO
Start	2 Aug	14 Jul	8 Aug	19 Aug	1 Aug
Stop	28 Oct	21 Nov	19 Oct	11 Nov	30 Oct
Total Days	67	31	43	17	91
No. Nets	1 to 37	.5 to 1.5	1 to 11	1 to 5	16
Net Hours	14,720	235	730	184	6,804
No. Best Day	312	12	51	40	241
Best Day Date	7 Oct	4,7 Nov	27 Sep	17 Sep	4 Oct
Reason Best Day	26% HETH, 38% Kinglets	58% SCJU	16 Species	-	33% MYWA
Best Diversity	33 on 16 Sep	6 on 21 Oct	16 on 27 Sep	9 on 7 Oct	27 on 4 Oct
Banded 2011	3,992	60	709	197	2,789
Banded 2012	5,570	91	734	200	4,064
Species 2011	88	20	65	33	77
Species 2012	125	21	62	33	87
B/100nh 2011	31	18	91	102	43
B/100nh 2012	38	39	101	93	59
% HY 2011	88%	57%	75%	66%	89%
% HY 2012	85%	79%	94%	76%	80%

Table 2. AFR II - Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2012

Braddock Bay			Alfred Station			Kestrel Haven			Northview			MBO		
Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
WTSP(2)	785	88%	SCJU(1)	39	75%	SOSP(2)	149	96%	GRCA(1)	46	67%	WTSP(2)	506	81%
BLPW	575	71%	BCCH(3)	17	82%	GRCA(1)	116	91%	BCCH(5)	33	70%	RCKI(4)	353	72%
GCKI(6)	343	90%	AMRO	5	100%	COYE(3)	86	97%	SOSP(3)	20	45%	MYWA(8)	292	66%
RCKI(5)	341	69%	ATSP	4	100%	AMGO(4)	70	84%	WTSP	20	69%	SOSP(5)	216	90%
SWTH	306	63%				BCCG(8)	44	99%	COYE	13	54%	MAWA(1)	203	83%
GRCA(7)	290	91%				NAWA	17	88%	BLJA	13	57%	SCJU(14)	198	73%
HETH(4)	288	88%				WTSP(7)	15	99%	FISP	7		SWTH(32)	176	80%
MAWA(8)	183	86%				HOFI	14	100%				BCCH(15)	171	94%
BCCH	175	94%										AMRE(6)	139	86%
COYE(9)	167	85%										AMRO(11)	130	79%
% of Total Banded	62.0%			60.0%			69.0%			76.0%			59.0%	

Notes: (#) - indicates ranking last fall