
Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) – Fall 2012 Report

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Five banding stations reported their results for the 2012 fall season, including a new station located on the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge in Chatham, MA.

Weather did not appear to be a negative factor this fall, except St. Andrews had a number of rainy days in October. All five banding stations had higher numbers of birds banded compared to the previous year, although St. Andrews and Appledore continue to have lower-than-average numbers.

The highest daily catch date varied widely among stations—with 2 Sep being the best day for Appledore to 23 Oct for Monomoy. The greatest species diversity occurred 29 Aug for Appledore, 16 and 17 Sep for Monomoy and St Andrews, and 4 and 12 Oct for Manomet and Wing Island. The numbers of different species for those days ranged from 12 to 30. Banders contributed to over 40,000 net-hours of effort this season.

St. Andrews reported that a once rare species in their area, the Northern Cardinal, has become quite common. Appledore banded its first ever Northern Harrier. Manomet banded their second Golden-winged Warbler in 14 years; record numbers of Eastern Phoebes, Gray Catbirds, and Myrtle Warblers were banded at Wing Island; and two rare east coast species were netted and banded at Monomoy—a Black-throated Gray Warbler and a Townsend's Solitaire. Warblers appeared to be on the decline at all stations.

Many thanks to the Region I compilers who took time to contribute to this report during their busy schedules!

St. Andrews Bird Banding Station 450-0670

New Brunswick, Canada

Banders: *Tracey Dean* (complier), Todd Alleger, Dominique Biondi

Last year, the construction of "Marine Science Drive" disrupted the banding with truck noise and disturbed the habitat beside net area HMa. This year, the impact of the new road was felt as it was cut through a hedgerow corridor along which birds used to travel. Weather was very changeable throughout the fall which can be good for bird movement, but many days were lost to wind and rain, especially in October. Catches would be good for a couple of days then drop right off.

The fall migration monitoring started on 2 Sep and there was daily coverage until 3 Oct, when the volunteers left. After that, nets were open sporadically with the last day being 22 Oct. Nets were open on 27 days and 298 birds of 39 species were banded. The best day was 21 Sep, when 25 birds were banded, 14 of which were goldfinches. The highest diversity was recorded on 17 Sep with 12 species. The Northern Cardinal used to be a rare bird in St. Andrews, but now is quite common in the town. A few individuals have even moved out into the woods and one was captured on 15 Sep.

The 19.28 birds/100 net hours (b/100nh) is the lowest in the 12 yrs of the project. Some species which had been caught regularly were not captured in 2012: e.g. Nashville Warbler, Canada Warbler and Veery. The graph at (top of pg. 116) shows that the number of b/100nh continues to decline. Is this an adjustment to changes in local habitat or a more far reaching question?

Table 1. AFR Region 1 - Northeast Fall 2012 Summary

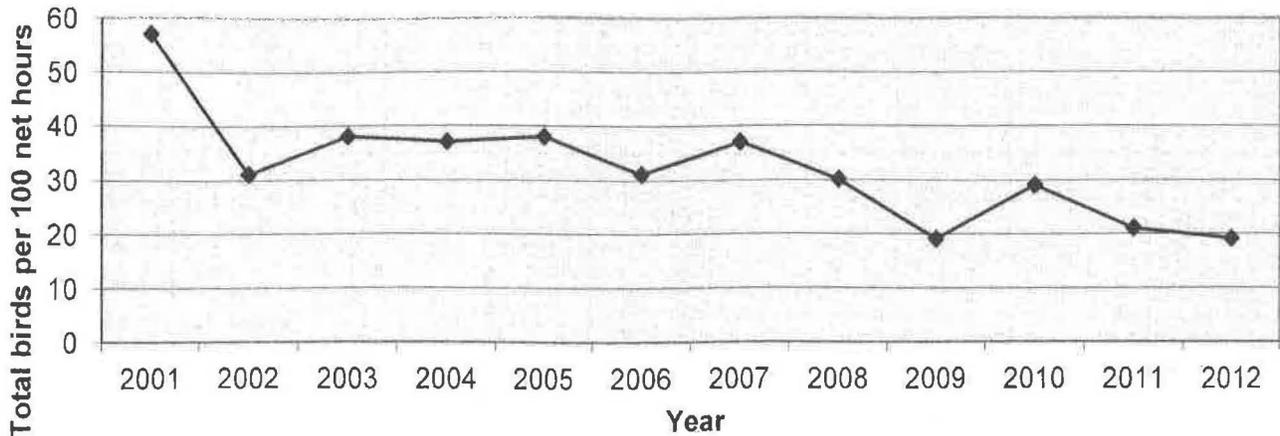
	St. Andrews, NB	Appledore Isl., ME	Manomet, MA	Wing Island, MA	Monomoy, MA
First Day	2 Sep	16 Aug	15 Aug	1 Aug	30 Aug
Last Day	22 Oct	14 Sep	15 Nov	17 Nov	4 Nov
Days Operated	27	30	60	50	40
No. Nets Used	6 to 14	7 to 10	10 to 50	14 to 35	8 to 18
Total Net Hours	1,546	3,317	27,583	5,236	2,558
# of Traps Used	0	0	0	1	0
% Caught in Traps	N/A	N/A	N/A	<1%	N/A
# Birds Banded 2011	227	980	2,382	2,364	872
# Birds Banded 2012	298	1,045	2,401	3,019	1,776
Different Species 2011	37	53	81	78	70
Different Species 2012	39	57	75	73	79
Largest Daily Catch	25	88	203	231	138
Lrgst Daily Catch Date	21 Sep	2 Sep	4 Oct	17 Oct	23 Oct
Most Common Species on Best Day	AMGO	REVI	MYWA	MYWA	MYWA
Which was What % of Total on Best Day	56%	23%	30%	73%	27%
Date Most Diversity	17 Sep	29 Aug	4 Oct	12 Oct	16 Sep
# Species on That Day	12	24	30	25	28
Birds/100nh 2011	22	27	8.8	31	107
Birds/100nh 2012	19	32	8.7	58	82
Overall % HY 2011	N/A	92%	81%	90%	89%
Overall % HY 2012	70%	94%	82%	92%	91%

Table 2. Top Ten Most Commonly Banded Species, AFR Region 1 - Northeast, Fall 2012

	St. Andrews, NB		Appledore Island, ME		Manomet, MA		Wing Island, MA		Monomoy, MA					
	#	% HY	#	% HY	#	% HY	#	% HY	#	% HY				
1. AMGO	47	N/A	GRCA (2)	225	100%	GRCA (1)	473	93%	MYWA (2)	935	92%	MYWA	360	95%
2. BCCH	30	N/A	NOWA (1)	147	91%	MYWA (4)	281	86%	GRCA (1)	850	95%	TRES	286	100%
3. WTSP (1)	18	N/A	RBNU	75	84%	TUTI (2)	176	80%	SOSP (3)	194	97%	RBNU	162	92%
4. SOSP (2)	16	N/A	REVI (5)	63	100%	BLPW (6)	175	53%	COYE (4)	99	89%	SAVS	83	96%
5. GCKI (10)	16	N/A	COYE (3)	58	95%	BCCH (10)	117	79%	BCCH (7)	84	86%	SCJU	75	94%
6. REVI	15	N/A	BAWW (9)	36	94%	AMRO (3)	113	74%	AMGO	79	99%	GCKI	72	05%
7. COYE (3)	14	N/A	BAOR (8)	33	100%	WTSP (5)	112	70%	SWSP (6)	71	100%	SOSP	51	86%
8. SWTH	13	N/A	YBFL	29	100%	NOCA (8)	92	86%	NOCA (8)	69	96%	PISI	49	92%
9. NOWA	11	N/A	AMRE (4)	29	97%	BLJA	66	97%	REVI (10)	65	95%	COYE	47	72%
10. AMRO	11	N/A	SOSP	28	96%	REVI (7)	59	100%	EAPH	63	86%	PAWA	46	96%

() = TOP 10 ORDER FROM PREVIOUS YEAR.

St. Andrews Station--b/100nh from the years 2001 thru 2012.



Thank-you to the **New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund** and the **New Brunswick Wildlife Council** for providing financial support for the daily operation of the Station, without which the Station would not be able to operate. Thank-you to the **Huntsman Marine Science Centre** for all the in-kind support which allowed the Station to successfully complete another fall migration-monitoring season.

Appledore Island Migration Station 425-0703

Appledore Island, York County, ME

Coordinator: **Sara Morris**

Banders: Liz Burton, Lindsay Herlihy, Anthony Hill, David Holmes, Becky Suomala, Assistants: Peg Ackerson, Laura Hetrick, Lauren Kras, Jan Lathrop, Susan Lee, Fay Melendy, Joan Stoner, Andy Thiede, Kathy Whittier

Fall banding on Appledore was unremarkable. Our total numbers continue to be low, due largely to the early closing date – a problem with working at a seasonal field station that closes in mid-September. Our total number of birds was only 1045, which is over 600 lower than our average since 1990 (average = 1676 ± 556), but is similar to our averages for the last five years (1134 ± 180 birds). Our 57 species banded was also much lower than our historical average (71.8 ± 8.8). Our net hours (3317 net hours) were also a good bit lower than both our historical (average since 1990: 4294 ± 909) and five-year (4157 ± 442) averages. While part of this reflects our shortened season, the loss of a normal net location as vegetation was cleared from one of our net lanes had a greater impact.

Because of the tremendous amount of annual variation, few species were outside their normal

ranges (and most of these were high). For example, we had higher than normal numbers of Northern Cardinals (7 in 2012, average 2.7 ± 2.0), Carolina Wrens (11 in 2012, average 3.8 ± 3.4), and Gray Catbirds (225 in 2012, average 109.2 ± 54.3), although these were all island breeders and many of those captured appeared to be local. While not out of their “normal” ranges, many of the migrant species were well below average. For example, the 29 American Redstarts banded was the lowest total at the station ever and was only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the historical average (114.4 ± 46.0). Other species whose captures were less than half of the historical average included Red-eyed Vireo, Blackpoll Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson Warbler, Yellow Warbler, and Song Sparrow, and many of these species are among our top 10 species in most years. Our excitement for the station came with the capture of our first ever Northern Harrier. We captured (but did not band) five Herring Gulls.

One of the Northern Waterthrushes we banded on 5 Sep 2009 was captured and released from the Brier Island Bird Migration Research Station in Nova Scotia, Canada, on 25 Aug 2012. It was originally banded as a hatch-year (HY) bird, so it was beginning its fourth southward migration.