



Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

NABC CERTIFICATION SESSION

The Eastern Bird Banding Association is scheduling its next NABC certification session at the **Bander** level for up to five candidates seeking or already possessing a U.S. or Canadian banding permit or subpermit, and at the **Trainer** level for up to two candidates who have already achieved Bander certification for **7-9 Oct 2005** at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) near Rochester, NY. Applications may be obtained from and submitted, no later than **27 Aug** to Elizabeth W. Brooks, 1435 Waterwells Rd., Alfred Station, NY 14803; phone: 607-587-9571; e-mail: brookser@infoblvd.net or ebrooks@bbbo.org.

NABC manuals and further details are available from the NABC website at www.nabanding.net/nabanding/. Accepted candidates will be notified by no later than **3 Sep**. Those seeking Bander certification are encouraged to contact an NABC Trainer (see website) to proctor the written examination portion of the certification prior to coming to BBBO (passage of the written portion is required before the 7-9 Oct practical session may be taken). However, for those not able to do so, the examination may be taken at BBBO by prior arrangement. Trainer candidates need not retake this written examination if previously their grade was 90 or better. See also the EBBA website at www.frontiernet.net/~bpbird/index.htm.

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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II (North Central) Fall 2004

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Ellenville and Alfred Station reported slow seasons, due in part to inclement weather and interrupted staffing. Bob McKinney was unable to operate his station this season but did get some recuperative time in helping at Braddock Bay. Also known as Kaiser-Manitou Beach, that station is our only concentration point sample and had a very nice year with over 5,000 banded. Just south of the two main Finger Lakes, Kestrel Haven and

Northview had good years with the former cresting 5,000 birds banded for the second year running. That also kept the two people operating that effort running as well!

Some unusual birds for our region were captured and banded this year. Bob Pantle had a nice Orchard Oriole and was able to exercise the new EBBA monograph in its identification. Thanks to a strong northwest front, the Gregoires banded their ninth Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow and added a Northern Shrike to their station list. Those of us who have banded considerable numbers of raptors probably forget how intimidating a Cooper's Hawk, especially a hefty female, can be

when one finds her first in the net; by the time Gail Kirch removed her for the third time, Gail was an ungloved pro! Betsy Brooks had high numbers of Brown Creepers at both her stations, and Valerie Freer reports on 35 years of AFR data!

Not highlighted in station reports was a slightly elevated number of Black-capped Chickadees. At one point during the season, the station at Powdermill in SW Pennsylvania advised on BIRDBAND of a probable irruption of that species at their site. It would seem that we caught only the edge of that movement. Finally, numbers of House Finches continue to rise throughout the region perhaps indicating a population rebound from the devastating effects of *Mycoplasma* infection. Red-eyed Vireos and Hermit Thrushes were abundant at several stations. Kestrel Haven had several aged birds returning, including a record-setting American Goldfinch.

Last fall we suggested, no, make that begged, for someone to take the lead on documenting avian

pox, as the 2003 season was so devastating in that respect. I am very pleased to report that Dr. Steven Gabrey of Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA, has stepped into the void and established the national pox database. Please visit the web site at <http://users.nsula.edu/steveng/> and be sure to report your future, and past, encounters. Steven's effort is reinforced by several experts in his department and, of course, complements Julie Craves' work on documenting bill deformities - http://www.umd.umich.edu/dept/rouge_river/bills.html. Thanks to you both. I should note that these are national, perhaps international, databases and contributions are welcome from all banders, not just AFR cooperators. Ironically, both pox and deformities were unremarkable this fall.

As always, we welcome new stations to join the AFR cooperative research team. If you band, please consider sharing your data and knowledge in this manner.



Cooper's Hawk by George West

Table 1. AFR II Summary of Operations - Fall 2004

	Braddock Bay	Alfred Sta.	Kestrel Haven	Northview	Vestal	Ellenville
Start	29 Jul	11 Jul	3 Jul	6 Jul	29 Jul	3 Aug
Stop	11 Nov	23 Nov	26 Nov	17 Oct	31 Oct	6 Nov
Total Days	57	57	113	76	64	40
No. Nets	1 to 45	1 to 5	1 to 24	1 to 6	1 to 11	7 to 8
Net Hours	10,758	547	4,046	616.3	1,819	961
No. Best Day	402	25	137	21	63	33
BD Date	12 Oct	25 Oct	27 Sep	16 Jul	29 Oct	30 Sep
Reason BD	40% Kinglets 19 % WTSP	36% AMGO 36% SCJU	52% AMGO	28% SOSP	27% AMGO	21% WTSP
Best Diversity	39 on 23 Sep	6 on 25 Oct	25 on 28 Aug	9 on 16 Jul	17 on Sep 25	16 on 25 Aug
Banded 2003	4678	200	5760	303	812	531
Banded 2004	5176	223	5002	590	1221	405
Species 2003	89	27	107	44	64	61
Species 2004	84	27	93	57	66	52
B/100nh 2003	37	43	117	78	62	50
B/100nh 2004	48	41	124	96	67	42
% HY 2003	85%	66%	87%	82%	86%	74%
% HY 2004	80%	55%	87%	82%	78%	62%

Table 2. AFR II Most Frequently Encountered Species - Fall 2004

Braddock Bay			Alfred Station			Kestrel Haven			Northview			Vestal			Ellenville		
Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY	Species	#	% HY
WTSP (1)	1146	87%	SCJU (1)	86	43%	AMGO (1)	1491	88%	GRCA (1)	195	81%	REVI (1)	193	91%	RCKI (4)	42	71%
HETH (4)	702	77%	BCCH (2)	52	77%	SOSP (2)	557	96%	SOSP (2)	74	81%	WTSP (2)	137	69%	SCJU (6)	38	26%
RCKI (2)	473	80%	AMGO (4)	22	81%	COYE (3)	283	89%	COYE (3)	40	83%	GRCA (3)	96	97%	GRCA (2)	34	71%
MAWA (5)	307	93%	BLJA	12	58%	HOFI (11)	250	91%	BCCH (6)	31	77%	BCCH (7)	59	95%	WTSP (1)	34	56%
GCKI (3)	213	78%	SOSP	9	44%	YWAR (8)	216	94%	AMRO (5)	25	80%	COYE (5)	60	97%	COYE (7)	27	74%
GRCA (6)	189	87%	MAWA	6	67%	CEDW (7)	186	37%	RTHU (4)	20	70%	AMRO	60	100%	BCCH (9)	25	88%
SWTH	188	74%	BRCR	4	100%	GRCA (5)	155	86%	AMGO (9)	16	50%	AMGO	58	86%	MAWA (13)	22	45%
COYE (7)	173	76%	HOWR	4	25%	WTSP (4)	154	94%	WTSP (7)	15	73%	SCJU (6)	54	72%	HOFI (16)	16	63%
CEDW	159	85%	WTSP	4	50%	SCJU (6)	137	72%	YWAR	13	77%	CEDW	43	95%	REVI (3)	12	58%
SOSP (8)	132	80%	WBNU	3	50%	RBGR (13)	132	71%	RBGR	12	75%	OVEN (10)	42	93%			
% Total Banded	69.9%			90.6%			70.8%			74.9%			68.5%				60.0%

Note: (#) Indicates ranking fall 2003.