

THE SEASON AT BRADDOCK BAY

AUTUMN BANDING 2007

The twenty-second consecutive year of fall banding at the Kaiser-Manitou Beach Banding Station began on 12 July and ended on 19 November 2007. Banding was carried out (weather permitting) for at least six hours per day between 20 August and 19 October. Banding was also conducted on 11 days prior to and six days after the intensive banding period, for a total of 13,097 net hours on 75 days. There were 5,526 birds banded of 91 species—an increase of more than 1,000 birds over the fall 2006 total of 4,516 birds banded. Due to an increase in banding effort, however, the season's overall capture rate was 42.2 birds/100 net hours (slightly down from 43.8 birds/100 net hours in 2006). No new species were added to the cumulative fall banding list that remains at 123 species.



The season began slowly with two weeks of hot weather (and few birds) in late August. Migration picked up by mid-September, with the busiest day of banding occurring on 12 October when 344 birds of 21 species were banded. Other 200+ days were 24 October (273), and 4 October (202). The greatest species diversity occurred on 16 September when 38 species were banded.

There were record-high numbers banded of 16 species including Eastern Wood Pewee, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Gray Catbird, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Common Grackle, and Purple Finch.

RESEARCH

Dr. Rachel Muheim of Virginia Tech University and Dr. Mark Deutschlander of Hobart & William Smith Colleges continued their research on orientation cues used by Swainson's Thrushes and White-throated Sparrows.

Samples of the preen gland secretions of selected species were collected for Dr. Meena Haribal of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Meena is studying the chemical properties of these secretions. Cloacal swabs and feather samples were collected from 100 birds as part of the avian influenza monitoring program being coordinated by the Landbird Monitoring Network of the Americas. The samples are being processed at U.C.L.A.

EDUCATION

Ten students successfully completed our Bander Training Course offered through the Rochester Institute of Technology. They were Diyaba-Khalisa Azhari, Matt Bango, Veena Chatti, Rae Ann Covington, Sandra Dedrick, Kelli Fagan, Matthew Feibusch, Shannon Lipa, Kenneth Nelson, and Carol Williams.

BBBO hosted a North American Banding Council Evaluation Session in October. Adrienne Leppold of Rector, PA was certified at Trainer level; and Margaret Fritze of Forestburgh, NY and Tom Greg of Jamison, PA were certified at Bander level. Participating trainers were Betsy Brooks, Mary Doscher, Sue Finnegan, Anthony Hill, David Holmes, Erin Karnatz, and Hannah Suthers.

We welcomed students from Mark Deutschlander's first year seminar course at Hobart & William Smith Colleges called "Bird Obsessions"; and grade school students from the Neil Armstrong School in Greece.

APPRECIATION

Banding was conducted by licensed banders David Bonter, Elizabeth Brooks, Mark Deutschlander, Kelly Dockery, Jon Dombrowski, Erin Karnatz, Ryan Kayhart, Cindy Marino, David Mathiason, Robert McKinney, David Semple, and John Waud. Banding assistants were David Alexander, Jessie Barry, Linda Boutwell, Virginia Duffy, Margaret Fritze, Mike Geringer, Rafael Herrera-Herrera, Marian Klik, Pat Livallo, Rachel Muheim, Mike Palermo, Ernesto

TOP 10 SPECIES BANDED DURING AUTUMN 2007

WITH NUMBERS CAPTURED DURING PREVIOUS 10 AUTUMN SEASONS

SPECIES	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
White-throated Sparrow	715	526	898	1183	1379	867	1569	1146	1516	674	1037
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	193	193	757	492	538	330	221	702	722	619	510
Black-capped Chickadee	46	290	1082	48	1668	48	68	189	237	96	396
Magnolia Warbler	57	127	276	265	341	214	220	188	170	270	309
Golden-crowned Kinglet	165	294	556	814	358	312	193	473	502	458	295
Gray Catbird	75	86	135	83	128	160	163	102	175	138	236
Hermit Thrush	178	96	261	216	178	238	414	307	450	171	200
Swainson's Thrush	65	40	167	119	147	94	150	159	165	123	177
Blackpoll Warbler	30	38	268	96	79	53	40	47	78	65	162
Common Yellowthroat	51	53	104	76	157	144	150	107	125	119	161

Ruelas, Doug Smith, Paul Taillie, Leanna Twohig, Rachel Vallender, Barb Wagner, and Megan Whitman. Our Research Assistant was Ryan Kayhart.

Thanks to Tom Muller for mowing paths, to Jim Gillette for mowing the field, and to Steve Maley and Doug Smith for their assistance with building and grounds management. Thanks to John Humnicky and the scouts who spent a morning removing green ash seedlings from our field. We appreciate the following individuals who helped scribe, tended net lanes, or assisted with other aspects of our educational or banding operation: Nancy Chevalier, Jennifer Cumbo, Sue Evans, Marilyn Guenther, Gary Herbert, Kathleen Holt, Peggy Keller, Joanna Klima, John Lehr, Chita McKinney, Shirley Meston, Lee Schofield, Jeanne Skelly, Ruth Stork, Tom Verhulst, Glenn Wagner, Dee Weber, Aggie Windig, and Scott and Teresa Wolcott.

A special thanks to Bill Kaiser and The Genesee Land Trust for permission to band on their land.

- Betsy Brooks & Ryan Kayhart ♦

Below: A Mourning Warbler banded at BBBO, autumn migration, 2007. Previous page: A Chestnut-sided Warbler, one of the truly confusing fall warblers. Photos by Rafael Herrera-Herrera.





"Yellow-bellied" birds banded at BBBO during autumn 2007 included a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (photo by Rafael Herrera-Herrera) and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (photo by Ryan Kayhart).

Sharp-shinned hawk	3	Northern Parula	3
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	2	Yellow Warbler	142
Saw-whet Owl	1	Chestnut-sided Warbler	21
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	Magnolia Warbler	309
Downy Woodpecker	16	Cape May Warbler	2
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Black-throated Blue Warbler	111
Northern Flicker	4	Yellow-rumped Warbler	31
Eastern Wood Pewee	9	Black-throated Green Warbler	9
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	30	Blackburnian Warbler	4
Traill's Flycatcher*	28	Palm Warbler	3
Least Flycatcher	44	Bay-breasted Warbler	13
Eastern Phoebe	8	Blackpoll Warbler	162
Great Crested Flycatcher	3	Black-and-white Warbler	6
Northern Shrike	1	American Redstart	70
Blue-headed Vireo	13	Ovenbird	30
Warbling Vireo	7	Northern Waterthrush	9
Philadelphia Vireo	19	Connecticut Warbler	3
Red-eyed Vireo	107	Mourning Warbler	9
Blue Jay	4	Common Yellowthroat	161
Black-capped Chickadee	396	Hooded Warbler	5
Tufted Titmouse	29	Wilson's Warbler	87
Red-breasted Nuthatch	21	Canada Warbler	12
White-breasted Nuthatch	12	Scarlet Tanager	2
Brown Creeper	95	Eastern Towhee	1
Carolina Wren	4	American Tree Sparrow	4
House Wren	24	Chipping Sparrow	4
Winter Wren	51	Field Sparrow	6
Marsh Wren	1	Savannah Sparrow	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	295	Fox Sparrow	11
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	510	Song Sparrow	151
Veery	21	Lincoln's Sparrow	35
Gray-cheeked Thrush	99	Swamp Sparrow	38
Bicknell's Thrush	1	White-throated Sparrow	1,037
Gray-ch./Bicknell's Thrush	38	White-crowned Sparrow	39
Swainson's Thrush	177	Dark-eyed Junco	62
Hermit Thrush	200	Northern Cardinal	31
Wood Thrush	6	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4
American Robin	28	Indigo Bunting	4
Gray Catbird	236	Rusty Blackbird	13
Brown Thrasher	3	Common Grackle	50
European Starling	6	Baltimore Oriole	3
Cedar Waxwing	85	Purple Finch	39
Blue-winged Warbler	9	House Finch	12
Tennessee Warbler	5	Common Redpoll	8
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	American Goldfinch	82
Nashville Warbler	32		

**"Traill's" Flycatcher includes both Willow Flycatcher and Alder Flycatcher. These species are difficult to distinguish from one another except by their calls.*