

MIGRATION MONITORING AT CABOT HEAD

Annual Report 2008

by

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for*

BRUCE PENINSULA BIRD OBSERVATORY

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Bruce Peninsula Bird Observatory

Spring fieldwork began on April 16 and ended on June 12 for a total of 58 consecutive days of coverage. In total, 1160 birds of 61 species were banded and 41 birds of 14 species were recaptured. A total of 157 species were detected during the monitoring period. The banding total is the lowest ever since 2002. Banding totals for many species, especially warblers, were below average compared to previous springs. However, Traill's Flycatchers, Red-eyed Vireos and Red-breasted Nuthatches were banded in record numbers this spring. The highest one-day species total was 65 on June 6. This spring, Short-billed Dowitcher and Dunlin were seen for the first time in spring in the Cabot Head area.

Fall fieldwork began on August 16 and ended on October 31 for a total of 77 consecutive days of coverage. In total, 1,616 birds of 68 species were banded and 204 birds of 29 species were recaptured. Most species were caught in average or above average numbers this fall. As a consequence, the banding total is just slightly above average (when the irruptive Black-capped Chickadee total is excluded). A new species, White-winged Crossbill, was banded for the first time at Cabot Head. A total of 128 species of birds were detected in the standard count area over the course of the field season. The highest one-day species total was 45, recorded on September 7. One species, Red Crossbill, was added to the list of species seen in the count area.

This year, a total of 26 volunteers helped for the project, totaling an impressive 303 volunteer-days. Most volunteers came from Ontario, but one was from Spain one from Ohio (USA) and one from England.

Summary on the conduct of BPBO during 2008.

	Spring	Fall	Total
Species detected	157	128	167
Species banded	61	68	79
Total banded	1160	1616	2777
Total days of coverage	58	77	135
Number of volunteers	17	9	26
Volunteer days	149	154	303

Banding totals of birds captured at Cabot Head Research Station in 2008

Species	Spring	Fall	Total	Species	Spring	Fall	Total
Sharp shinned Hawk	22	2	24	Magnolia Warbler	63	20	83
Merlin	1		1	Cape May Warbler		2	2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		2	2	Black-thr. Blue Warbler	20	18	38
Black-billed Cuckoo	4		4	Myrtle Warbler	27	59	86
Northern Saw-whet Owl		1	1	Black-thr. Green Warbler	17	37	54
Downy Woodpecker		4	4	Pine Warbler		2	2
Hairy Woodpecker		8	8	Western Palm Warbler	52	2	54
Yellow-shafted Flicker	6	3	9	Bay-breasted Warbler		5	5
Pileated Woodpecker		1	1	Blackpoll Warbler	1	6	7
Eastern Wood-Pewee	2		2	Black-and-White Warbler	31	25	56
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	5	1	6	American Redstart	195	171	366
Traill's Flycatcher	26	5	31	Ovenbird	19	16	35
Least Flycatcher	12	4	16	Northern Waterthrush	1	8	9
Eastern Phoebe		4	4	Mourning Warbler	7	2	9
Great Crested Flycatcher		1	1	Common Yellowthroat	35	17	52
Blue-headed Vireo	4	8	12	Wilson's Warbler	21	9	30
Philadelphia Vireo	4		4	Canada Warbler	11	5	16
Red-eyed Vireo	25	66	91	American Tree Sparrow	6	28	34
Blue Jay	62	4	66	Chipping Sparrow	7		7
Black-capped Chickadee	76	47	123	Savannah Sparrow	2		2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	17	93	110	Fox Sparrow	1	3	4
Brown Creeper	8	31	39	Song Sparrow	10	22	32
House Wren		1	1	Lincoln's Sparrow	13	4	17
Winter Wren	3	8	11	Swamp Sparrow	6	5	11
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	255	258	White-throated Sparrow	68	158	226
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	65	63	128	White-crowned Sparrow	20	53	73
Veery	5	4	9	Slate-coloured Junco	45	83	128
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	8	9	Eastern Towhee		1	1
Swainson's Thrush	14	15	29	Northern Cardinal		1	1
Hermit Thrush	18	39	57	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	4	1	5
Wood Thrush	2		2	Indigo Bunting	3	5	8
American Robin	3	21	24	Rusty Blackbird	1		1
Gray Catbird	14	2	16	Red-winged Blackbird	1		1
Brown Thrasher	12		12	Purple Finch		1	1
Cedar Waxwing		45	45	Common Redpoll		4	4
Tennessee Warbler	1		1	White-winged Crossbill		22	22
Orange-crowned Warbler	11	4	15	Pine Siskin		44	44
Nashville Warbler	24	22	46	American Goldfinch	1	1	2
Northern Parula		1	1	Total (w/o Chickadees)	1084	1568	2652
Yellow Warbler	12	1	13	Total (with Chickadees)	1160	1615	2775
Chestnut-sided Warbler	8	1	9	Species Total	61	68	79

Black-thr. : Black-throated