

Except from

Atlantic Flyway Review - Northeast Coastal Region 1 - Fall 2000
North American Bird Bander 26:2 72-77.

St. Andrews Banding Station
New Brunswick, Canada

450-0670

Tracey Dean (bander)

The St. Andrews Banding Station is located on the shores of the St. Croix River on land owned by the Huntsman Marine Science Centre. The nets are set in second growth vegetation, mainly along the edges of regenerating fields. During the fall season 648 birds of 51 species were banded during the 31 mornings the nets were open. While the increase in net hours from 1999 produced more captures, the actual birds/100 net hours were down.

White-throated Sparrow continues to be the most abundant species caught, followed by a variety of warblers and the two species of kinglets. The only new species added this year was Baltimore Oriole, which are uncommon in our coastal area.

Overall flycatchers numbers were up, especially for Alder (n=19, 1.8/100nhs), but I didn't catch the variety I did last year. Goldfinch numbers seem to follow a two-year of cycle and this was a down year even though I didn't see a difference in the knapweed patch. Song & White-crowned Sparrows were up (n=25 & n=3 or 2.3 & 0.3/100nhs, respectively), while there were only minor changes in the number of White-throats per 100 net hours (n=70 or 6.5/100nhs). It was a good year for Cedar Waxwings with the highest numbers in ten years (n=22 or 2.0/100nhs). Vireo numbers were slightly down from last year highs. Generally warbler numbers were down, with the largest declines in Northern Parula (n=21 or 1.9/100nhs, and Magnolia's (n=40 or 3.7/100nhs). Common Yellowthroat was the only warbler to have a show a marked increase from 1999(n=40 or 3.7/100nhs). Thrush numbers continue to be sporadic with Hermits up (n=18 or 1.7/100nhs), Swainson's down (n=1 or 0.1/100nhs) and Veery's holding steady (n=3 or 0.3/100nhs). The first Grey-cheeked in eight years was also captured.

I was unable to open the nets as much as I would have liked in October and missed major chunks of the late migration. It would have been a great year for kinglets! Next year, with luck, I hope to have help during September and cover the migration more thoroughly.