

Kestrel Haven Avian Migration Observatory
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SPRING 2010 Atlantic Flyway Review Report

We termed last spring's effort as "dismal". That leaves us without an appropriate or polite word to describe this year where we banded fifty percent fewer birds! Weather was most often unsafe for netting and an early warmth brought birds north in sporadic bursts. Most of the movement coincided with high winds and a station closed for safety.

We banded 323 individuals of 46 species in 16 days of operation. We also had 27 repeats, 48 returns, and 2 hummingbirds not banded. Our measure of efficiency was 122 birds per 100 net hours for newly banded birds and 135 birds/100 NH overall. Our best day was 15 April with 48 banded and our most species diverse day was 17 May with 17 species banded. The station total remains at 132 species and 6 forms banded and the cumulative point count at 220 species seen at Kestrel Haven. We banded two Yellow-shafted Flickers that presented with some red primary shafts.

The only item worth reporting is our returns. The highlight was the return of a female Hairy Woodpecker that set a new species longevity record at over 16 years of age. She has been recaptured quite often since her banding as an adult in July 1995. Out of deference for her age, we left her very worn band in place.

She led the list of 24 of the 46 returns that were over 4 years of age. The elders were:

- **A Hairy Woodpecker at 16+ years old.**
- A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at 5.
- A Blue Jay at 4.
- Two Black-capped Chickadees at 5 and 6.
- Four American Robins at 4 (3) and 5.
- Seven Yellow Warblers at 4 (6) and 4+.
- Two Northern Cardinals at 4 and 6.
- A Song Sparrow at 4.
- A Red-winged Blackbird at 7+.
- A Baltimore Oriole at 4.
- Two American Goldfinch at 4 and 6.

We had a report of an American Goldfinch banded here in November 2008 that was found dead southeast of downtown Rochester, NY on 26 April 2010.

We would like to thank Bob and Judy Cosgriff, A.L. Donahue and David Guaspari for their financial support as well as Stillman's Greenhouse for their advice, assistance and support. Thanks to Vicky Kelly for her continued maintenance of our website. A very special thanks to Rick Smith and ATC-NY Corp. for their generous donation of a laptop!

Kestrel Haven Statistical Summaries Spring 2010:

Table I: Operations

First Day 15 April: Last 25 May
 Total Days in Operation 16
 Range of No. Nets Used 1 to 10
 Total Net Hours for Season* 264
 Number of Traps in Use 0 ** % of Total caught in traps N/A
 Largest Daily Catch 48 on 15 April.
 Best Species Diversity: 17 species on 17 May
 Number birds banded 2009: 779; Number birds banded 2010: 323
 Total Species 2009: 46 Total Species 2010: 46
 Birds/100 net hours 2009: 145 Birds/100 net hours 2010: 122
 Species above 2 S.D. in 2010: N/A -insufficient data
 Species below 2 S.D. in 2010: N/A - insufficient data
 Weather influence ranking (+ or - or?)***: VERY negative

* Based on 1 4-shelf 12m net x 1 hour of netting = 1 net hour (adjusted Accordingly for shorter or longer nets)

** List number and types used

*** Were general weather conditions overall during the season a negative or Positive or inconclusive factor in banding results?

Table II: List of Ten Most Commonly Banded Species Spring 2010

	Species	Number	%SY	%ASY	%AHY
1.	AMGO	84	40	23	37
2.	WTSP	28	60	40	00
3.	MYWA	19	63	37	00
4.	YWAR	18	78	22	00
5.	EWCS	18	40	60	00
6.	SCJU	16	06	00	94
7.	RWBL	15	66	34	00
8.	AMRO	13	12	77	11
9.	SOSP	11	00	00	100
10.	CHSP	8	25	75	00

* See text

Overall % SY = 39