

MIGRATION SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 10th - 16th, 2008

Pelee Island Bird Observatory (PIBO)



After a busy morning at the start of the week, southerly winds and warm temperatures from the 11th-15th produced a lull in bird numbers, but migration activity picked up again towards the end of the summary period.

Light northwest winds and a dawn temperature of 10° C on October 10th made for an active morning - 48 species were recorded on the day and 82 birds were banded of fourteen species. **Yellow-rumped Warblers** and **Hermit Thrushes** were numerous along with a nice variety of other migrants including

Blue-headed Vireo, five thrush species, **Nashville**, **Black-throated Blue** and **Palm Warblers**, and the first **Fox Sparrow** of the Fall.

Warm conditions returned to the Point on the 11th and south winds persisted for three days. Despite the weather, both kinglet species were noted in moderate numbers each day and sparrows remained active along with diurnal migrants such as **Red-winged Blackbirds**, **Common Grackles**, **American Pipits** and **American Robins**. The warm weather didn't discourage migrating **Saw-whets Owls** either - sixteen birds were captured on the evening of October 14th, including one foreign encounter.

Songbird activity picked up again on the 15th when 45 species were observed and 67 individuals of fifteen species were banded. Other migrants recorded on the day included 4 **Northern Harriers**, ones-and-twos of five warbler species (**Magnolia**, **Black-throated Blue**, **Yellow-rumped**, **Palm** and **Blackpoll**), seven sparrow species, and the first **Eastern Meadowlarks** of the Fall. Kinglets and **White-throated Sparrows** remained active on the final day of the summary period and **Winter Wrens** were tallied in good numbers, with 26 birds counted on census and in the netting area.

A total of 74 species was recorded at the Point this week during the official count period compared to 83 last week and there were four Fall 'firsts', which brings the Fall species total to 154. In all, 278 birds were banded along with two recaptures in 322 net-hours, for an average catch-rate of .87 birds/net-hour. Nineteen **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were captured this week including two foreign recoveries.

Common Yellowthroat							1
Northern Cardinal	6		3	3			1
Eastern Towhee			1			2	2
Field Sparrow							1
Savannah Sparrow						1	
White-throated Sparrow	11	22	10	3	8	54	45
Fox Sparrow	1						
Song Sparrow						8	9
Lincoln's Sparrow						1	
Swamp Sparrow	1	2		1		3	4
Dark-eyed Junco	10	7	1	3		18	19
Eastern Meadowlark						3	
Brown-headed Cowbird						6	
Red-winged Blackbird	123	87	36	8	4	81	15
Rusty Blackbird	10						
Common Grackle	3					103	8
American Goldfinch	42	2	17	1	3	19	7

SPECIES

Day	48	33	37	32	24	45	40
Fall 2008	151	151	151	151	151	153	154
This period	74		Previous period				83
October	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Weather- 1 hr. after sunrise

Wind direction/strength ¹	NW1	E3	SE1	SW1	WSW4	SW3	NW4
Visibility (km)	30	30	20	30	5	20	20
Cloud cover (0-10)	0	1	2	10	4	9	6
Temperature (° C)	10	15	14	14	19	17	13
Precipitation							

¹ Beaufort scale