

Migration Summary for the Period April 29th – May 5th

Pelee Island Bird Observatory



Louisiana Waterthrush

Migrants continued to arrive in modest numbers this week although a good variety of species were noted during the summary period. Early spring birds such as **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, **Brown Creeper**, **Hermit Thrush**, and **Northern Junco** were mostly absent, but quite a few new arrivals were observed (17 species). It was a transitional week in some respects as we await the first significant influx of neotropical birds including most of the warblers, vireos and flycatchers, and a host of others.

It was generally quiet on April 29th with the exception of 55 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** on the day along with ones-and-twos of four other warbler species. The 30th was noticeably more active when 62 species were tallied in the count area including eleven warbler species, the first **Red-eyed Vireos** of the spring, and small numbers of **Wood** and **Swainson's Thrushes**. The highlight of the day was a captured **Louisiana Waterthrush**, which is just PIBO's second banding record for this species.

After a fairly inactive morning on May 1st, migrants once again increased in number on the 2nd and four spring 'firsts' were recorded – **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**, **Veery**, **American Redstart** and **Chestnut-sided Warbler**. A similar morning of activity on May 3rd produced a banded **White-eyed Vireo**. A **Summer Tanager** and **Louisiana Waterthrush** were observed by PIBO staff at Fish Point in the

afternoon.

May 4th was also busy with 60 species recorded during PIBO's six-hour count period, including the most unusual bird of the spring to date – a ***Lark Sparrow*** noted at the tip during the morning census. This is a first record for PIBO and, in all likelihood, a new documented species for Pelee Island. The final day of the summary period was fairly uneventful apart from the arrival of the first **Orchard Orioles** of 2009.

Next week's summary will be posted on May 14th.

Photo: Claire Sanders