

## PIBO MIGRATION SUMMARY

### August 11<sup>th</sup> – August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012



*Philadelphia Vireo*

It was a lowkey start to the summary period but activity picked up on the 13<sup>th</sup> and migrants continued to arrive in moderate numbers throughout the rest of the week. In all, 26 Fall 'firsts' were recorded over ten days, including eleven warbler species, and a nice variety of birds were banded in small numbers.

Heavy thunderstorms and strong west winds on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> hampered the coverage effort and just the 90-minute census was conducted on both days. While not many species were tallied, there was a good southward movement of swallows on August 11<sup>th</sup>, including 180 Purple Martins and 160 Barn Swallows departing off the tip.

Despite some warm southwest winds on the 13<sup>th</sup>, a nice range of birds appeared that morning and 55 species were noted in the official 'count' area, including the first American Redstarts and Bobolinks of the Fall. A lively Eastern Screech-Owl

was the first banded bird of the season. Heavy rain on August 14<sup>th</sup> and more southerly winds the next day made for a quiet time, although a few birds were banded, including Fall 'firsts' for Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and Magnolia Warbler.

Similar conditions prevailed over the following two days but then the wind shifted to the north, the temperature dropped to 15° C, and a nice variety and number of migrants showed up on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Ten warbler species were banded including season 'firsts' for Tennessee, Bay-breasted, and Mourning Warbler, and 47 species were observed on the day.

While not as active on August 19<sup>th</sup>, a noticeable increase in cormorants (3200) and 3 Bald Eagles were noted at the tip and 50 species were recorded during the official 'count' period, including the first Cape May Warbler of the Fall. A small but steady movement of diurnal migrants departing south off the tip on the morning census included 22 Barn Swallows, 18 Bobolinks, 18 Cedar Waxwings, 11 Chimney Swifts, and 3 Eastern Kingbirds. Fifty-two species were tallied on the final day of the summary period including eight warbler species, along with small numbers, of Red-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Veery, and Gray Catbird, among others.

*PIBO's next migration summary will be posted on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

Photo: Sumiko Onishi