

MIGRATION SUMMARY April 24th to May 15th, 2018

May 16th: We had the highest daily total species count of the season yet: 83 species including 18 warbler species and good variety of flycatchers. We banded 21 birds of 11 species including two new species: a mourning warbler and a prothonotary warbler.

May 17th: The weather was stupendous and there are still many migrants in the area. While on the census, Patrick found one blue-grey gnatcatcher especially entertaining. The station banded 9 Swainsons thrushes and 6 common yellowthroats. 66 species for the day.

May 18th: The weather turned less pleasant with strong winds generating loud surf. It was much quieter in terms of birds; only 38 species were observed on census and we were unable to open nets due to the wind. Four American white pelicans were observed though.

May 19th: We banded four thrush species today including a wood thrush. There was a good diversity of birds banded overall with 41 individuals of 19 species. Census had a high count for common grackles today (n=69) and a blackburnian warbler stole my (Patrick's) breath away. We also observed two Wilson's warblers.



A male ruby-throated hummingbird. Photo by Sumiko Onishi.

May 20th: A busy morning with 54 species on census – Canada warbler, savannah sparrows, a strong showing of flycatchers. Overall, six species of flycatchers were observed or banded including yellow-bellied, least and willow flycatchers. New for the season were a Connecticut warbler and a common nighthawk.

May 21st: The daily species counts remain high with 73 including a wimberel at the tip on census and the banding of an olive-sided flycatcher, both were new for the season. The banding station was busy with quite a few flycatchers and warblers still present.

May 22nd: Still many migrants around but perhaps they were a bit quieter today. On census Patrick had a late brown creeper and observed more sparrows than usual including a Lincolns sparrow. There was a great deal of bird activity at the tip this morning. Pat also flushed up a grey fox on the

census – what a beautiful animal! The banding station was less busy than last few days but still a number of flycatchers were banded as well as warblers such as common yellowthroat.

In case you missed this last week: PIBO has started uploading our census data to eBird (only the census as it fits the eBird protocol). As the census takes place at Fish Point Nature Preserve, all data are reported to that “hotspot” and can be viewed here: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L761132> As an added bonus to the streamlined data collection, we get to share what we are seeing each day.