Migration Summary September 1-14th, 2022



Dear friends and supporters of PIBO,

Based on my observation during the previous day, I thought September 1st would be a busy morning. It was the busiest morning, with banding for the season so far. Numerous Swainson's Thrush must have shown up during the night. A total of 84 birds were banded, including 28 thrushes and 50 warblers (21.6 net-hours, 3.9 bird/net-hour). Eighteen birds (mostly thrushes) were banded for an hour before the census, and 66 birds were banded after the census. A total of 67 species were recorded during the standard count period, including 17 warbler species. On the census, many Blackpoll and Tennessee Warblers were observed along the west shore. I did my best to identify as many species, but the 90 minutes census wasn't enough to identify all the individuals.

From September 2nd to 3rd, many birds continuously moved through the area. A total of 49 birds of 17 species (25.3 net-hours) were banded, including 22 Swainson's and a Connecticut Warbler, on September 2nd. American Redstart, Red-eyed Vireo and Eastern Wood-Pewee had been numerous. On

September 3rd, 45 birds of 17 species (12.8 net-hours) were banded. The nets reopened after the census had to be closed due to capturing too many birds within an hour. A good variety of warblers were seen for both the census and netting - 17 warbler species were recorded during the morning. At dusk, about twenty Common Nighthawks flying around in the sky were observed as non-standard observation.

From September 4th to 5th, on and off rain continued. A swarm of mosquitoes were lively, and many snails were on the ground after the rain. A total of 50 species was recorded during the census on the 4th. Numerous Swainson's Thrushes and warblers were seen in the netting area, but no chance to open the nets due to the rain. On the 5th, the nets were open after the census, and 25 birds were banded (18.6 net-hours). The weather improved on the 6th; hundreds of warblers were at the pond, and many Cape May and Yellow-rumped Warblers were observed. Some of the nets were open after the census; however, they closed temporally after an hour due to bird volume. A total of 69 birds were banded (17.25 net-hours), including 24 Magnolia Warblers.

For September 7th and 8th, it had been a good north-east wind for the migration and quite a few Monarch butterflies, and dragonflies had observed. Many thrushes were calling in the netting area at dawn. A big flock – about three hundred - of Common Grackles flying over was seen on the census, and lots of vireos – the majority was Red-eyed, but many Warbling, Philadelphia, and some Blue-headed - were seen. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were coming through the area as well. On the 8th, some birds must have left for the south during the night; it was a bit quieter this morning. Eighteen warbler species were recorded during the count period, and numerous Blackpoll and a few Black-throated Green Warblers were around. We banded 45 birds of 14 species (24.6 net-hours) on the 7th and 24 birds of 10 species (11.25 net-hours) on the 8th.

From September 9th to 12th many birds took off to the south and the forest had been quiet for a while until the weather changed. An average of ten birds were banded each morning before and after the census. A Golden-winged Warbler was spotted during the census on the 10th, although fewer warblers had been observed. Some Yellow Warblers were still coming through, and our season-first Ruby-crowned Kinglet singing was seen nearby the nets on the 11th. Since Sharp-shinned Hawks and Merlins started hanging around the area, songbirds were harder to find. On my way to Fish Point this morning (September 12th), I saw thirty-five American White Pelicans open their wings widely and start flying high up in the grey sky. They slowly formed a V shape and flew away.

On September 14th, I heard numerous flight calls of thrushes in the dawn sky. Some of them were captured in the early morning net-round, but many must have passed through. A Sharp-shinned Hawk was banded as new for the season. Hundreds of Western Palm Warblers had been seen for the 14th and 15th, along with many Blackpoll Warblers. On September 15th, lots of White-throated Sparrows arrived, and some Lincoln's Sparrows were seen. Although the netting area had been quiet, a hundred warblers were seen in the vegetation along the west beach, and 18 warbler species were recorded during the count period.

From September 14th to 15th numerous Monarch butterflies and dragonflies (mostly Black Saddlebags) were coming through the area. Monarchs were roosting at the east shore on the 14th, and a hundred

were fluttering around along the tip the following day.

*Net-hours are calculated based on hours of nets were open and number of nets and sizes. Connecticut warbler by Sumiko Onishi

The summary was written by Sumiko Onishi