

President's Message - continued from page 111

Ed Reed has been carrying the AMFO Project, while Roy Frock's Auditing Committee has been checking our accounts.

Secretary Dottie Foy and Treasurer Dave Corkran have been hard at work during their terms.

Last but not least, Gale Goldbeck's Nominating Committee saw to it that at least one slate of candidates for officers and councillors in 1972 was presented to the annual meeting.

The people not mentioned who have been working on behalf of EBBA have just as much of my personal gratitude as the ones I have listed.

All EBBA Members must surely join me in saying "Thanks". To the new administration: my most sincere best wishes.

Emil J. Berger, Jr., 2346 Rebecca Drive, Hatfield, Pa. 19440

RAPTOR BANDERS-ORGANIZE!

Anyone interested in information about an organization for raptor banders, please call or drop a card to the following organizers:

WILLIAM S. CLARK
7800 Dasset Court
Apartment 101
Annandale, Va. 22003

703- 941-5324

ROBERT WILSON
Clover Lane
Dover,
New Jersey 07801

201- 895-2259

A questionnaire will be sent to you by return mail.

We want to know what raptor banders want from such an organization before we proceed. Possibilities at present are to set up a separate organization, establish a raptor banding suborganization, or drop the idea completely if no one is interested.

The purpose of such an organization would be the interchange of information on raptor trapping techniques, results, and studies. Also a raptor banding ethic will be established through editorials and article content.

(A.F.R. - Region III, Cont'd from page 96)

FIRE ISLAND RESEARCH STATION (Paul A. Buckley)

Fire Island Research Station (FIRS) founded on 1 September 1969, operates on a year-around basis. This report covers a four months period from 24 July to 26 November, 1971. During this period, 10,659 birds of 122 species were banded, as follows:

AUG. (17 days)*- 1443 birds of 68 spp., in 2910.25 net hrs (0.5 b. per nh)
SEP. (16 days) - 2363 birds of 90 spp., in 3506.25 net hrs (0.7 b. per nh)
OCT. (16 days) - 5760 birds of 75 spp., in 1976.25 net hrs (3.0 b. per nh)
NOV. (10 days) - 1093 birds of 40 spp., in 1274.50 net hrs (0.9 b. per nh)
(59 days) 10659 birds of 122spp., in 9667.25 net hrs (1.1 b. per nh)

Seven species were added to the station list in 1971: Golden-winged Warbler, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Least Sandpiper, Sanderling, Barn Owl, Common Snipe, and Oregon Junco. The station list now stands at 156 spp., banded.

Two stations were in operation (about 1/3rd of the total number of days, they were in operating, simultaneously), east and west of the USCG Lighthouse. The two habitats are very different and serve to detect habitat preferences by the migrants. For the purpose of this summary, however, the data are lumped together. Listed below, are our 20 most numerous birds; these 20 account for 8465 out of 10659 birds (80%). Percentages listed in the table are based on the entire period total.

Myrtle Warbler	3838 (36%)	Junco	280 (3%)	Song Sparrow	159(1%)
Gold-cr. Kinglet	633 (6%)	Ruby-cr. Kinglet	219 (2%)	N.Waterthr.	149(1%)
Goldfinch	387 (4%)	Flicker	209 (2%)	Blackpoll W.	146(1%)
Redstart	379 (4%)	Red-eyed Vireo	199 (2%)	Yellow Warb.	144(1%)
Yellowthroat	331 (3%)	Brown Creeper	185 (2%)	Palm Warbler	143(1%)
Cape May Warbler	310 (3%)	Pine Siskin	174 (2%)	Robin	122(1%)
Barn Swallow	295 (3%)	Catbird	163 (2%)		

Heaviest days within each month were as follows:

8 August:	29 species,	152 individuals
15 August:	27 "	146 "
21 August:	37 "	294 "
22 August:	35 "	206 "
29 August:	37 "	149 "
6 September:	51 "	603 "
25 September:	52 "	393 "
8 October:	49 "	1111 "
9 October:	45 "	929 "
16 October:	43 "	546 "
13 November:	19 "	202 "
14 November:	22 "	113 "

(*) Incl. 24 July

Rarities by month (sight records marked *) are as follows:

Summer Tanager, 2 August	Acadian Flycatcher, 16 August
Golden-winged Warbler, 8 August	Olive-sided Flycatcher, 22 August
Dickcissel, 15 August	Lark Sparrow, 15 August
Mourning Warbler, 15 & 16 August	Worm-eating Warbler, 15 & 21 August
Louisiana Waterthrush, 29 August	Loggerhead Shrike, 29 August*
Worm-eating Warbler, 2 & 8 September	Warbling Vireo, 4(2 on 11 Sept.)
Red-headed Woodpecker, 6 September	Barn Owl, 18 September
Yellow-throated Vireo, 25 Sept.	Connecticut Warbler, 3
Yellow-headed Blackbird, 25-26 Sept*	Mourning Warbler, 2
Dickcissel, 2 on 25th; 26th*	
Red-headed Woodpecker, 5 & 6 Oct*	Clay-colored Sparrow, 8 & 9 October*
Orange-cr. Warbler, 8* & 30 Oct.	Common Snipe, 17 October
Dickcissel, total of 28* (maximum: 15 on 7 October, 6 in one flock!)	
Oregon Junco, 6 November	Marsh Hawk, 6 November
Saw-whet Owl, 17 total (maximum: 7 on 14 November)	
Dickcissel, 18 November*	Orange-cr. Warbler, 6 November
Red Crossbill, 10* & 21* November	

Early or late dates, as the case may be, are as follows (* sight record)

White-throated Sparrow, Aug. 7* & 14(2);	Tennessee Warbler, 17 August
Empidonax, sp. 9 October	Philadelphia Vireo, 14 October
Warbling Vireo, 9 October	Lapland Longspur, 23 October *
Bay-breasted Warbler, 28 October *	
Cape May Warbler, 6 November	Tennessee Warbler, 14 November
Chat, 14 November	Indigo Bunting, 14 November
White-crowned Sparrow, 14 Nov.	Yellowthroat, 18 November
Nashville Warbler, 18 November	

Some individual significant high daily counts include the following:

Cape May Warbler, 112 on 6 September
 Myrtle Warbler, 638 on 8th October (many more unable to be taken care of)
 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 132 on 7th October

We banded/netted 178 Empidonax of at least four species this fall, as well as 5934 warblers of 31 species (3838 Myrtle Warbler incl.)

FIRS is concerned with a wide variety of research projects, the bird-banding activities being the hub of the operation. Studies on birds include quantitative analysis of migration phenomena such as direction of movement, length of time remaining in the area, feeding and flock association habits, habitat (i.e. vegetation selection), etc. We are also examining certain birds for heavy metals poisoning via atomic absorption spectro-photometer, and pesticide poisoning via gas chromatography. Other studies involve small mammals, plankton and higher plants, and fishes.

Many persons have contributed their efforts to the station. The greatest amount of time was contributed by Darrel B. Ford; other banders were - Frederick A. Heath, Howard Honig, Bob Paxton, Tom Davis and Fred Schaeffer.

-- Hofstra University, Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y. 11550

CHIPMUNK PROBLEMS?

By Leroy C. Stegeman

How many of you have been bothered by Chipmunks springing your "Potter-Trip-Step" traps? When I placed such traps along an old stone wall, where the chipmunk population was high, the chipmunks would spring most of the traps within a half hour after they had been set.

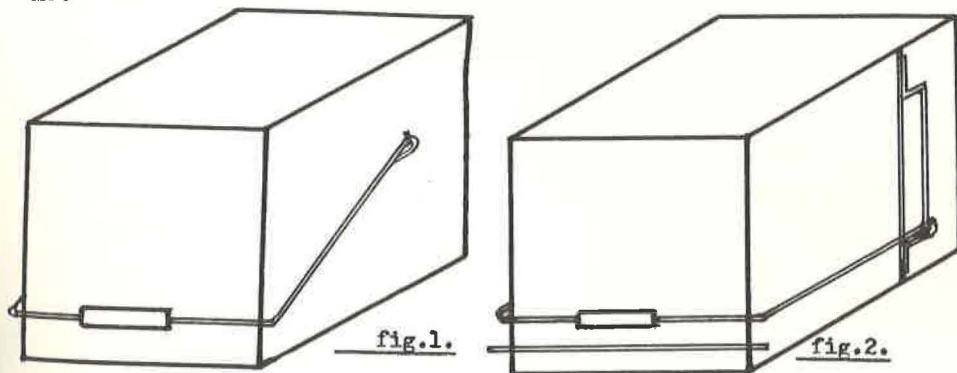
To meet this problem I altered some of the traps so that they would hold the rascals. I then transported the chipmunks to another area and released them. Unless they are taken a considerable distance they will find their way back quickly.

When Chipmunks are caught in the regular unmodified traps they proceeded to load their cheek-pouches and could then push the door open far enough to get out. This was possible because of the angle of the doorkeeper with the trap door (see figure 1). By changing this angle they could not push the door open. In some of the traps they could pull the door inward also and escape in that manner.

The following alterations made escape in these ways impossible.

1. A wire guide was soldered to each side of the trap which allowed both ends of the doorkeeper to drop when the trap was sprung. This placed the door keeper at almost a right angle to the door and the door could not be pushed open (see figure 2).
2. To prevent the door from being pulled inward, a wire was soldered across the bottom of the door. The wire extended beyond the sides of the trap and therefore the door could not be pulled inward (see fig. 2).

These changes were easily made and they have worked very well for me.



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