

DECEMBER

Saw-whet owls - 2 on 2nd  
Merlin - one on 4th

A total of 15 Dickcissels, plus one banded were seen this fall; this is lower than in some years such as 1969, when 55 were recorded. However this might be due to spottier daily coverage this year. Large numbers of Pine siskins were recorded going by in November, but almost none were netted.

Personnel who actually ran the nets and gathered most of the data enumerated here include: Darrel B. Ford, Howard Honig, Frederick A. Heath, Robert O. Paxton, Fred Schaeffer, Efrem Rosen, Dan Klem, Sheila Becker, Thomas H. Davis, John Biderman, Mary McKeough, and F. G. Buckley.

TOBAY BANDING STATION (Anthony J. Lauro)

Tobay Banding Station is located four miles south of Massapequa, on the outer island adjacent to the Jones Beach State Park complex, near the Nassau/Suffolk County line in New York. It consists of typical barrier beach habitat, low deciduous cover (Poison Ivy, Catbrier and Bayberry shrubs) interspersed with grasses and phragmites.

The station was in operation on August 6th, 26-27th, September 2nd, 4th, 9th through 12th, 14th through 17th, 23rd and 24th, and on October 1st, 8-9th, 14-15th, 21-22nd and 28th. Fifteen to seventeen nets were used. All nets were of the 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ " mesh type.

Not much banding was done because the weather was very wet throughout the month of August. September was also very wet and the best day that month was September 23rd with 126 individuals banded. October 14th was the best day with 320 birds banded; other banding days that month did not turn out very well because winds were not conducive to good flights.

The Myrtle warbler was the most commonly banded bird (1437), followed by the Yellowthroat (95), Catbird (91), Red-eyed vireo (83), White-throated sparrow (59), Barn swallow (67) and Eastern phoebe (51). No rarities were noted at this station during the period covered.

One return is interesting: a Myrtle warbler, banded on 15 October, 1971, was retrapped on 16 October 1972.

A Slate colored junco was recovered on 12-25-72. It was banded by A.J. Lauro, at Tobay on 10-01-72 (#81-055773).

Overall it was just a poor year because of the weather conditions and there was nothing particularly noteworthy.

Two banders assisted during the 1971 season: Harvey Farber and Robert Giffen. Tabulations of the netting effort are available at no charge.

WADSWORTH WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, Westport, Conn. (Robert Dewire)

Nets were set up in a shrubby thicket area adjoining a red maple swamp and in a field edge near a bird feeding station. A monthly breakdown is indicated below:

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net Hours	Species
Aug.	16	303	2	19	42	40
Sept.	16	400	1	6	73	51
Oct.	15	667	0	7	121	46

This years totals were much higher than 1971 because of the increase in the number of nets used, from 3 in 1971 to up to 10 and an average of 8 this year. Even so, based on the net hour figures the birds were up over 1971 (66/100 net hours in 1971, 75/100 this year). The same habitats were used with an increase in the number of nets in the shrubby thicket area. There is no doubt that the warbler flights were far better here this year. Last year, seven species had higher totals than the Myrtle warbler, but this year they were by far the most numerous (166). Other species most commonly caught were the Catbird (110), Ruby-crowned kinglet (102), Yellowthroat (97), and White-throated sparrow (96).

While it would be hard to say any species positively increased over last year since the higher number of nets were used this year, it is easy to note the decreases where fewer individuals were caught this year despite the net increase. Most noticeable were the Blue Jay (56 in 1971 to 23), Black-capped chickadee (51 in 1971 to 21) Towhee (43 in 1971 to 22), Robin (28 in 1971 to 15), and