

**BLACK SWAMP  
BIRD OBSERVATORY  
NAVARRE BANDING STATION**

**413-0830**

Lacarne, Ottawa County, OH

**Coordinators/Banders: Ashli Gorbet,  
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Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) has conducted banding operations at its Navarre Banding Station each spring and fall since 1990. Located on remnant beach ridge habitat along the southwest shore of Lake Erie, the station is comprised primarily of dogwood shrub-scrub, buttonbush marsh, and Carolinian forest. Due to its position along the lakeshore and relative isolation among an urban/agricultural landscape, the site is a concentrated stopover point for many migrants crossing Lake Erie.

The station operated for 69 days this fall, from 13 Aug to 30 Oct, with 10 days closed due to weather. 4,566 birds of 89 species were banded in 7,025 nh, representing a station effort of 65 birds/100nh.

Banding conditions were fair for fall, but noticeably warm for most of the season, with 80° F/26.6C days persisting into early October. Wind direction played a significant role in daily catches, with most of our biggest days occurring after southerly winds—a direction that tends to push birds back up to the lakeshore. Warmer temperatures, combined with many days of unfavorable winds, may have contributed to what felt like a “slow” season. While 4,566 is not too far off from our fall average (4,781) few days in September surpassed 100 new birds—a month that typically sees over a half dozen 100+ days in its latter half. Daily catches of 100-200+ did pick up in the beginning of October; however, we did not experience typical species pushes as expected. Other than American Robin and Fox Sparrow, thrushes and sparrows were below average and seemed to trickle through rather than make big pushes through the area. Gray-

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cheeked Thrush, in particular, was notably low with only 81 banded (average 183), as was Swamp Sparrow with 16 banded (average 66). Common Yellowthroat has continued to see a decline in recent years with 58 banded this fall compared to 78 (2017) and 137 (2016) and an overall average of 161.

Most species were close to or above average. Particularly high, though, was Bay-breasted Warbler which set a new fall record with 129 banded compared to a previous high of 58. We also saw our second-ever fall capture of a Prairie Warbler on 17 Sep. Particularly high, though, were cavity nesters (both local and migratory) with most species coming in or above average and, :Eastern Screech-Owl (4), Hairy Woodpecker (5), Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker (19), Prothonotary Warbler (26), and White-breasted Nuthatch (5) all setting new fall capture records.

Many thanks to our dedicated group of volunteers without whom this station’s efforts would not be possible. Thanks also to Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge for its continued support of this project and access to this incredible habitat.

**KELLEY’S ISLAND**

**413-0824**

**JONES PRESERVE**

Kelleys Island, Erie County, OH

**Coordinator/Bander: H. Thomas Bartlett**

Assistant: Paula Bartlett

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This is the 23rd year of banding on Kelley,s Island and the 12th Fall season. Email for a copy of the full 2018 report. Highlights for 2018 were our first Whip-poor-will at the late date of 29 Oct, our first Grasshopper Sparrow at the late date of 30 Oct., and 7 Purple Finches (we had only banded 2 previously).

**SPRINGVILLE MARSH**

**410-0832**

**STATE NATURE PRESERVE**

Springville, Seneca County, OH

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