

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region IV

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As usual in Region IV, there was little consistency in the fall banding in 1982. Two stations (Alfred Station and Powdermill) had extremely good banding results. Two stations (Maitland River, Ontario and Presque Isle) had very poor years. The other stations reported about average. The northern stations tended toward the average to poor. Except for Presque Isle, the best banding was found in the southern New York-Pennsylvania region. Short distances can bring about great differences in numbers; note the remarks about Alfred Station vs. Farmersville Station. The TV tower kill-records from the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences show the largest bird kill ever this fall. Over 3500 birds of 53 species were collected from 21 September to 29 September. This indicated a massive nocturnal migration. Yet Beaver Meadow, 10 miles (16.1 km) east, and Farmersville Station 15 miles (24.1 km) southeast had an average-to-poor migration. Obviously the birds overflowed our banding stations during these nights.

Allegheny Front records indicated an early movement of birds through their area. Powdermill commented on the continuous movement rather than the normal "waves." The Purple Finch, House Finch, and American Goldfinch were banded in greater than normal numbers. Depending upon the location, warblers could be "best ever" to very poor. Sparrows seem to be down this fall at many stations.

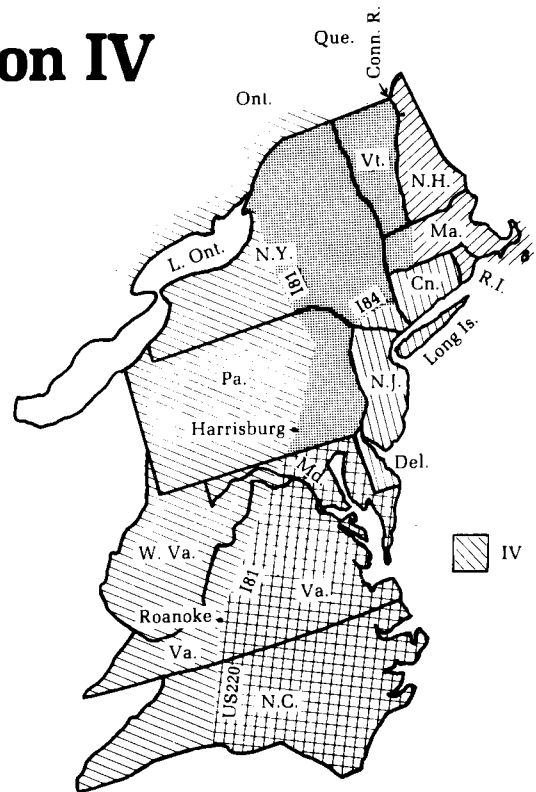
The Buffalo-Western New York area is incorrectly maligned by the media for its "Siberian" type weather. This fall has been mild and open. The ponds at Farmersville Station were still unfrozen 31 December. Due to this unseasonal weather, flocks of Canada Geese were seen in the area daily. A flock of 50 remained on these ponds past the first of the new year. However, even with the lack of snow, there have not been many half-hardy birds remaining at the feeders. Also, no winter finches have moved into the area. Evening Grosbeaks are few and far between.

We welcome John Mitton to Region IV of the Atlantic Flyway Review. John started banding at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center and spent one session as an intern at Manomet Bird Observatory. His station is located just east of East Aurora, NY.

Any bander is welcome to send his station-banding-reports for publication in the Atlantic Flyway Review. Please contact the region coordinator for information.

Maitland River Bird Observatory
Huron County, Ontario 435-0812
John B. Miles

The Maitland River Bird Observatory was in operation from 25 July to 17 October 1982. The station was run mainly on weekends with continuous coverage from 14 August to 6 September. The fall banding was not particularly productive. 915 birds were caught in 17,894 net-hours for a total of 5 birds/100 net-hours. Six birds were trapped and 5 caught in other ways. Seventy-two species were banded.



Best birds were a Common Nighthawk, 4 Olive-sided Flycatchers caught on 3 successive days, and a Golden-winged Warbler.

Darien Center, NY 425-0783
Thomas Harper

Fall banding was conducted for 10 days this autumn at Darien Center, New York. 37 new birds were banded; 16 were netted and 33 trapped. There were 12 species banded plus 6 returns and 6 repeats.

Marilla, NY 425-0783
John Mitton

1982 was my first year of banding for the fall migration. Banding was conducted on 21 days between 12 August and 14 November.

207 birds of 36 species were banded. The largest daily catch of 29 birds occurred on 31 October. There were 2 returns and 4 repeats. Four to 8 mist nets were employed with a total of 438 net-hours. This resulted in 48 birds/100 net hours.

Interesting species caught were Acadian Flycatcher, Connecticut Warbler, Winter Wren, and a hybrid Northern Flicker.

Beaver Meadow Audubon Center
North Java, NY 424-0782
David Junkin

Beaver Meadow Audubon Center operated from 24 August through 11 November 1982. Late August included some 40 degree nights and a hard frost on 28 August which killed many plants susceptible to frost. The State of New York declared Wyoming County in a drought alert because of a deficiency of rainfall since June.

Table 1 Region IV Summary

	Maitland River	Darien Center	Marilla	Beaver Meadow	Farmersville Station	Alfred Station	Presque Isle
Days of operation	43	10	21	18	76	68	12
Number of nets used	34	5	4-8	7-9	5	1-7	-
Total net-hours	17894	38	438	868	1510	2484	634
Largest daily catch	-	-	29	38	24	88	-
Birds banded, 1982	926	37	207	287	516	672	362
Birds banded, 1981	1115	28	-	256	183	500	660
Different species, 1982	72	12	36	35	50	57	45
Different species, 1981	76	12	-	32	26	54	58
Birds/100 n.h., 1982	5	4	48	34	26	27	57
Birds/100 n.h., 1981	5	3	-	25	45	17	98

The biggest daily catch was 26 October which resulted from a catch of 32 Cedar Waxwings out of a flock of roughly 200. Other big days were 28, 29 September and 12, 19, 24 and 29 October.

Banding took place on Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. Banding took place only on days when there was little threat of rain as banders travel distances of 7 to 52 miles from their homes. Banders included Jane Cole, Taddy Dann, Betsy Davis, Tom Harper, David Junkin, John Mitton, Ree Thayer, and Nancy Tomczak.

Nets are set on an escarpment within 100 meters of nearby ponds. The area was planted about 20 years ago with fruit-bearing shrubs and canes. These are predominantly autumn olive with a small mixture of highbush cranberry, multiflora rose, and blackberry. The few trees in the area include quaking aspen, white pine, and yellow birch.

Primarily the birds in the area are attracted by insects and fruit. During the times when seeds were used to attract birds near the nets, we had a problem with chipmunks coming to the nets and preying on the immobilized birds.

Farmersville Station, NY 422-0782
Donald F. Clark

1982 was the 14th year of banding reports for the fall migration from this banding station. It was an average year in numbers of birds banded and species caught. 516 birds of 50 species were banded, weighed and measured. No new species were caught this year. An average of 5 nets were used for 1510 net hours over 76 days. There were 26 birds/100 net-hours, which

was just a little under the 10-year average. The largest daily catch was 24 birds on 11 November. There were 77 returns and 177 repeats.

There were no waves of birds coming through this fall. Forty-eight Purple Finches, 50 House Finches, and 104 American Goldfinches were banded. It is likely these were birds that nested in nearby areas.

It is interesting to note the difference in banding results within a relatively short distance. Betsy Brooks bands at Alfred Station, NY about 35 miles from Farmersville Station. On 27 September she called to tell me of the fantastic time she had banding that day. It had poured at my station all day; no birds were banded and very few seen. Her fall banding was the best ever while mine was only average. She caught more warblers in one day than I did all fall.

Warblers, thrushes, kinglets, and most sparrows were scarce this year. The finches were in record numbers for the season. Both Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers seem to be seen in fewer numbers each year.

Alfred Station, NY 421-0774
Elizabeth W. Brooks

These data cover banding done at this year-round station from 29 August until snowy weather arrived on 14 November 1982. Many winter residents arrived at this time. This was the eighth consecutive year of fall activity. I used from 1 to 7 mist nets during 2484 net-hours of operation on 68 days during the period.

A total of 672 new birds were banded (highest ever). There

Table 2. Interesting or most common species 1982.

Maitland River, Ont.	Darien Center, N.Y.	Marilla N.Y.	Beaver Meadow, N.Y.	Farmersville Station, N.Y.	Alfred Station, N.Y.
112 Red-w Blackb	14 B-c Chickadee	45 B-c Chickadee	64 Cedar Waxwing	104 Am Goldfinch	93 Magnolia Warb
82 R-b Grosbeak	4 W-thr Sparrow	31 Gray Catbird	57 Gray Catbird	50 House Finch	76 Am Goldfinch
72 Bay-b Warb	4 Song Sparrow	26 Y-rump Warb	53 W-thr Sparrow	49 B-c Chickadee	52 Tenn Warb
42 Sw Thrush	3 Gray Catbird	9 Sw Thrush	18 B-c Chickadee	48 Purple Finch	41 Nashville Warb
39 D-e Junco	2 Blue Jay	9 W-thr Sparrow	13 Am Robin	27 W-thr Sparrow	38 B-c Chickadee
38 N Oriole	2 Brown Creeper	8 Hermit Thrush	12 Magnolia Warb	21 Sw Thrush	34 Song Sparrow
34 Song Sparrow	2 Blue-w Warb	8 Magnolia Warb	11 R-c Kinglet	19 R-b Grosbeak	32 R-b Grosbeak
34 Red-eyed Vireo	2 Cardinal		10 Sw Thrush	18 Gray Catbird	30 C Yellowthr
32 Magnolia Warb			8 House Finch	14 Song Sparrow	22 Gray Catbird
30 G-c Kinglet			6 Song Sparrow	12 Magnolia Warb	22 B-t Green Warb

Table 1 Region IV Summary

	Powdermill	Pleasant Valley	Allegheny Front
Days of operation	96	21	46
Number of nets used	5-45	10-22	13
Total net-hours	18798	3099	4702
Largest daily catch	576	66	449
Birds banded, 1982	10129	565	6708
Birds banded, 1981	6595	799	9220
Different species, 1982	105	57	84
Different species, 1981	112	67	82
Birds/100 n.h., 1982	54	18	143
Birds/100 n.h., 1981	35	19	219

were 175 repeats and 22 returns. There were 27 birds/100 net-hours of operation, significantly more than any previous year.

Two-thirds of the total number of birds banded were banded during September. Peak days were 2, 18, 22, 23, 26, and 27 September. On 2, 22, and 27 September some nets had to be taken down for short periods to keep the situation manageable. Highest daily tally came on 27 September when 88 birds were banded.

There were 57 species handled during the period (highest ever) including 19 species of warblers. Broad-winged Hawk, Tufted Titmouse, and Mourning Warbler were new for this station.

Among the returns was a fifth year Blue Jay, a fourth year Black-capped Chickadee, a fourth year Downy Woodpecker, and a fourth year American Goldfinch. Banding in early November was reduced until a problem with a feral cat was solved. A bander's bad dream occurred on 22 September when, after a wearying day of warbler banding, 12 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks flew into one net just as I was about to close the nets. The Magnolia, Tennessee, and Black-throated Green Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Gray Catbirds were significantly more plentiful. Yellow-rumped Warblers and Dark-eyed Juncos were down.

Presque Isle State Park
Erie, PA 420-0800
Ronald F. Leberman

For the second year in a row the fall migration at Presque Isle State Park was very disappointing, in fact downright dull.

Only the very first year of operation (1960) produced fewer birds.

A total of 362 new birds were banded in 12 days of operation. Banding was done mostly on weekends between 29 August and 23 October. Fifty-seven birds/100 net-hours were captured on 634 net-hours. There were fewer retraps and no recoveries this year.

The weather situation here did not help. We had constant high winds out of the east or up from the south. For the most part it was extremely dry the entire period and warmer than normal. We had an early heavy frost in August, but no real cold fronts passed through after that, even in October. Flycatcher, sparrow, and warbler totals were way down in numbers. Many commonly banded warblers at this station were completely missing. These included Tennessee, Cape May, Common Yellowthroat, and Yellow-rumped; only one American Redstart was banded. In 21 years of operation at this station, we have banded 20,168 birds of 118 species. This is 103 birds/100 net-hours. Banders this year were James and Jean Stull, Thelma Patton, and Ronald Leberman.

Powdermill Nature Preserve

Rector, PA 400-0792
Robert C. Leberman, Robert S. Mulvihill

Since the period was marked by mild, dry weather with predominantly southerly winds, the tremendous success of the Powdermill banding program in the fall of 1982 was somewhat of a surprise. Rather than being characterized by distinct weather fronts and the often subsequent waves and peaks of migrants, this season brought with it continuous movement of migrants from mid-August through mid-November that resulted in our banding 100 or more birds on 42 days this season. High daily totals for the fall of 1982 were:

Date	No. Banded	Date	No. Banded
September 14	320	October 10	364
18	202	13	319
24	228	17	245
26	220	21	218
29	228	22	576
October 2	286	23	392
9	350		

This was the busiest banding season on record at Powdermill,

Table 2. Interesting or most common species, 1982.

Presque Isle, Pa.	Powdermill Pa.	Pleasant Valley, Md.	Allegheny Front, W.Va.
59 W-thr Sparrow	1245 Cedar Waxwing	63 Cape May Warb	1052 Cape May Warb
33 Sw Thrush	979 Yellow Warb	42 Gray Catbird	762 B-t Blue Warb
31 G-c Kinglet	706 W-thr Sparrow	37 Magnolia Warb	761 Tenn Warb
28 D-e Junco	619 Sw Thrush	34 Tenn Warb	632 Blackpoll Warb
21 Magnolia Warb	522 Purple Finch	32 W-thr Sparrow	518 Sw Thrush
19 Brown Creeper	400 Song Sparrow	31 Sw Thrush	490 B-t Green Warb
14 Ovenbird	383 Am Goldfinch		434 Bay-b Warb
14 Gray Catbird	337 Cape May Warb		356 Blkburn Warb
13 G-c Thrush	295 Magnolia Warb		230 Magnolia Warb
12 R-c Kinglet	292 D-e Junco		128 C Yellowthr
12 Bay-b Warb			
12 Song Sparrow			

with an unusually high ratio of 53.9 birds banded/100 net-hours. The total of 10,129 birds banded was 71% above the average of the past 6 fall seasons. As is often the case, the 10 most commonly banded species were responsible for a large percentage of the total number of birds banded, in this case 57%, with two species (Cedar Waxwing and Yellow-rumped Warbler) accounting for 22%.

With 1245 banded, this fall's Cedar Waxwing flight was remarkable, the best ever in 21 years of banding at Powdermill. High waxwing totals in the past have often been the result of good August and early September banding of birds caught in a few nets set along the edges of a recently flooded area while they hawked for insects from the partially submerged shrubbery. This year, the August and September flights were fairly unimpressive, and by far the bulk of the waxwings was banded in October, most being caught in the half dozen or so nets in close proximity to stands of multiflora rose.

Perhaps even more impressive, since they have never before been netted at this inland locality in such numbers, was the flight of Yellow-rumped Warblers. Our total of 979 was nearly twice the previous record of 573 banded in 1971. 187 Yellow-rumps were banded on 10 October 1982, our highest daily total ever for this species.

In fact, most of the species that we handled in the fall of 1982 were banded in numbers greater than their six-year averages.

Thrushes made a nice comeback this season after last year's decline: 54 Wood Thrushes (up 83%); 23 Veeries (up 123%); 91 Gray-cheeked Thrushes (up 75%); 619 Swainson's Thrushes (up 93.4% — our highest total ever); and Hermit Thrushes (up 99%).

As a group, the flycatchers also made a good showing, with all 8 species that we band handled in above average numbers. Vireos showed a mixed picture. The 69 Philadelphia Vireos banded were 170.6% above the average of the past six seasons and represented an all-time high, and Solitary Vireos, with a record of 41 banded, were 134% above average. Conversely, Yellow-throated and White-eyed Vireos showed decreases of 39.4% and 23.8% respectively. The sample sizes for the latter two species (2 and 8), however, are considerably smaller than those for the former two.

Wood warblers staged their best flight ever at the Reserve. Of 31 species netted this fall, 23 were in above average numbers, 3 were in average numbers, and only 5 were in below average numbers. Of the 5 species in below average numbers, only one — American Redstart—is ever captured in enough numbers for the decrease to be meaningful. The other 4 are species for which the six-year average ranges from 2.8 to 22.3 individuals, rendering interpretation difficult. This was the first fall season in the last ten that we failed to net even a single Cerulean Warbler.

Of the warblers handled in above average numbers, several made their best showing ever at Powdermill. The 104 Black-throated Green Warblers were 182.6% above average; 25 Blackburnian Warblers (a record 10 banded on 27 August) were up 138%; 102 Bay-breasted Warblers, up 134.5%; 97 Ovenbirds, up 45.6%; 109 Hooded Warblers, up 104.9%; 337 Cape May Warblers, up 215.5%; and 979 Yellow-rumped Warblers up a remarkable 310.3%.

Among the Emberizinae, those considered to be primarily northern nesters were the only species banded in numbers below the six-year average. These include White-crowned Sparrows (down 47.4%); Fox Sparrows (down 47.9%); Lincoln's Sparrows (down 8.5%); and Dark-eyed Juncos (down 24.8%).

Finches showing significant increases were Indigo Buntings, the 125 banded being 74.6% above average; Chipping Sparrow, with 99 banded, up 194.6%; and Purple Finch, the 522 banded being 265.5% above average and the second highest number of fall bandings ever at Powdermill.

Species such as Winter Wren, Field Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, both kinglets, Brown Creeper, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, which are thought to have suffered significant losses on their wintering grounds several years ago, continue to rebuild their numbers slowly; all the above-mentioned species were handled in increased numbers this fall.

Other noteworthy bandings during the busy fall of 1982 included 2 Eastern Screech-Owls, 4 Sharp-shinned Hawks, a Northern (Red-shafted x Yellow-shafted) Flicker intergrade on 13 October, an individual of the Bicknell's subspecies of the Gray-cheeked Thrush on 2 October, and an Alaskan subspecies of the Yellow Warbler on 11 September. Several nets set along the edges of three small ponds continued to be successful, capturing 2 Green Herons, 11 Solitary Sandpipers, and 9 Belted Kingfishers. Southerly winds may have effected the unprecedented capture of 3 Carolina Chickadees and the first fall banding of a Carolina Wren since 1976.

Eight recoveries of birds banded at Powdermill in the fall were reported in 1982. A Gray Catbird banded at the Reserve as an HY-U on 26 September 1981 was trapped and released by George Hall 5 miles east of Morgantown, WV on 18 May 1982. A Dark-eyed Junco banded as an HY-F on 18 November was found dead in April of 1982 near Macon, NC. An HY-U Black-capped Chickadee banded on 19 September 1980 was caught by a cat and released alive at Latrobe, PA 12 miles (19.3 km) northwest of the Reserve. An Evening Grosbeak found dead at Coudersport, PA on 8 May 1981 had been banded as an HY-M approximately 6 months earlier. Of particular interest was a Common Yellowthroat banded as an HY-U while on its inland migration through Powdermill on 16 September 1978 and found dead at a known age of 3 years 4 months while migrating near the coast. The recovery came from South Orange, NJ on 26 September 1981. Our first long distance recovery of a House Finch was of one banded on 23 August 1980 as an HY-U and found dead at Cookeville, TN approximately 450 miles (724 km) southwest of the Reserve. Finally there were two exciting recoveries of Cedar Waxwings reported in 1982. One bird banded as an HY-U on 2 November 1980 was found dead far to the north, at Brudenell on Prince Edward Island (925 miles — 1488.3 km—northwest of the Reserve) on 11 June 1982, where it was almost certainly on its breeding grounds. Another HY-U waxwing banded on 16 August 1980 was caught and released in February 1981 on its wintering grounds at Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, Mexico. With almost 2000 miles (3218 km) separating them, these two recoveries represent the farthest recoveries north and south respectively of Powdermill banded waxwings.

We thank Mary Marlatt for invaluable assistance through

much of the season. Much appreciated help was also provided from time to time by D. Scott Wood, Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes, Jay Loughlin, Larry Barth, Ellen Censky, and C.D. Gerow.

Pleasant Valley

Bittenger, MD 393-0791

Dorothea Malec

Banding in September and October was about average this year. The weather was generally warm and dry with no cold fronts to bring down large masses of migrating birds.

We banded on a total of 21 days — 12 in September and 9 in October. We used a maximum of 22 nets and a minimum of 10, totaling 3099 net-hours. New birds banded were 565, giving 18 birds/100 net-hours. The most productive banding days were 8 September with 66 birds of 20 species, 14 September with 63 birds of 17 species, and 5 October with 46 birds of 21 species.

There were no unusual species captured and very few retraps. Missing from our list were Blue Jay, Chipping Sparrow, and Indigo Bunting. We had more Bay-breasted Warblers (16), Yellow-rumped Warblers (14), and Blackpoll Warblers (23) than usual.

Banders were Harriet Williams and Dorothea Malec.

Allegheny Front Migration Observatory

Grant County, WV 390-0791

George A. Hall

The twenty-fifth year of bird banding at the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory can be best described as an average year. The station was in continuous operation from 17 August to 3 October, with banding carried out on 46 days. The station was closed for 2 days in September because of rain, and on 3 other days operations were suspended early because of the weather. The migration was still in full swing on 3 October when circumstances forced us to close the station.

A total of 6708 birds (6th highest) of 84 (highest ever) species were banded in a station effort of 4702 net-hours (2nd highest), giving a capture ratio of 143 birds/100 net-hours.

One new species, the Olive-sided Flycatcher, was added to the station list bringing that total to 111 species and a grand total of 82,799 birds banded. Five birds, 2 Common Yellowthroats, 1 Dark-eyed Junco, 1 Gray Catbird, and 1 Rufous-sided Towhee banded in previous years were captured this year. In the last year we have had reports of 3 birds banded at this station being recovered elsewhere. A Wood Thrush banded on 6 October 1980 was recovered at a place near Burlington, VT in May 1982. A Cape May Warbler banded on 10 September 1981 was trapped at the Long Point Bird Observatory, Ontario on 14 May 1982, and a Nashville Warbler banded on 16 September 1981 was recovered in Michoacan, Mexico 17 March 1982.

The migration was unusual in that the day of greatest capture occurred on 30 August with 449 bandings. Another high peak took place from 3-5 September. Early season peaks have been common, but these were bigger than normal. Birds continued to come through in moderate numbers in early September, but the usual heavy flight in late September did not take place. There was a pronounced peak in bandings from 18-21 September, but usually this heavy flight lasts for a week or more. There was another large influx of migrants in early October

and, had the station been open longer, more captures would have been made. 30 August was the only day on which captures exceeded 400, but there were 5 days with captures between 300 and 400 and 4 days with captures between 200 and 300.

Wood warblers constituted 80% of the captures, with the Cape May leading the list with 1052. The perennial leader, the Tennessee Warbler, dropped to third place. The Nashville, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, and Bay-breasted Warblers were caught in numbers above a seven-year average. The Magnolia Warbler was right on that average. The Tennessee, Blackpoll, Ovenbird, Wilson's, and American Redstart were in below average numbers. Of these, however, only the Cape May and the Blackburnian were in numbers differing by more than one standard deviation of the mean. Of the non-warblers, the Rose-breasted Grosbeak was captured in significantly greater numbers than the average, and the Swainson's Thrush was slightly above normal. The almost complete absence of Red-breasted Nuthatches was notable after the heavy influx last year. All of the October species were lower than normal numbers because of the early closing of the station. The number of Black-capped Chickadees captured indicated a modest invasion year for this species, and October observations elsewhere confirm this.

During the season a total of 1200 people who came from 14 states, District of Columbia, and Denmark signed the visitors' book. As usual several bird clubs, college classes, and elementary school classes visited the station. Two visits were made by students from the West Virginia School for the Deaf.

The banders who participated were Maxine Kiff, Ephe Oliver, Julie Simpson, Trudi Smith, Jo Lane Stern, Judy Ward, Leon Wilson, and co-leaders Ralph Bell and George Hall. John and Genevieve Findley were again in charge of the net lanes. Mike and Kathleen Finnegan, unable to be present throughout the season, nevertheless provided much assistance, as did LeJay Graffious, who erected the shelter.

The following people aided in tending nets, carrying collection cages, keeping records, and in many other ways: Betty Brewer, Virginia Byers, Nancy Campbell, Carolyn Conrad, Dorothy Conrad, Margaret Donald, Ben Dutcher, Kevin Findley, Walter Fye, Betty Gatewood, Andrew Hall, Florence Griffin, Lorraine Harper, Mel Hooker, Gene Hutton, Ben Kiff, Martha Kulp, Bill Lewis, Carol McCullough, Chris McCullough, Fred McCullough, Jason McCullough, Ann McGrew, Jerry McGrew, Jacalen Minear, Jack Minear, Jolene Minear, Jonathon Minear, Jonavieve Minear, Janice Musser, Marilyn Ortt, Glen Phillips, Ivarean Pierce, Charlotte Pryor, Esther Reichelderfer, Carl Rowe, Carolyn Ruddle, Todd Schnopps, Ed Smith, Hubert Stanley, Virginia Stanley, Mary Twig, Roy Ward, Martin Wiley, Ruth Wilkinson, Delores Wilson, Ann Woods, Jean Woods, Virginia Johnson, and John Jones. To all of these and to any inadvertently omitted from this list we express our thanks and appreciation.

We also wish to thank the personnel of the Monongahela National Forest: R.F. Mumme, Supervisor; Jerry Bremer, District Ranger; David Allen, Assistant District Ranger; Mary Miller, Recreation Specialist; and others for their cooperation and support of this project.