



Western Regional News

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WBBA ANNOUNCEMENT

A Call for Papers – The Western Bird Banding Association is currently accepting abstracts for papers and posters to be presented at the 2009 annual meeting at the **San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory in Milpitas, California, 28-30 August 2009.**

The meeting is not to be missed and will have exciting demonstrations and workshops of banding, data management, and analysis of banding data. Presentations can reflect original research, summarize existing information, or address the use of banding as a tool in avian research and monitoring. It is best if abstracts identify study objectives, describe study methods and data analysis, discuss the significance of the research, and propose future research directions.

Please submit abstracts electronically by 15 July to **C. J. Ralph (EM: cjralph@humboldt1.com)**, specifying paper or poster. For additional information on abstract submission and about WBBA's 2009 meeting, please visit the WBBA website:

www.westernbirdbanding.org/next-meetings.html

or contact C.J. Ralph at 707 825-2992.

Mackenzie Nature Observatory (MNO)

Mackenzie Nature Observatory's banding station is located at Mugaha Marsh (55°23'55 N 123°12'30W) approximately 14.5 km northwest of Mackenzie, BC. Mugaha Marsh is in the Rocky Mountain Trench, west of the Rockies and just east of the Parsnip Reach of Williston Reservoir.

During fall migration at this site, 2008 was the 14th year of standardized banding. Twelve mist nets were operated daily for six hr starting at sunrise. The season was slower than average; however, a good diversity of species (68) was captured during standard banding. MNO's fall banding season runs from 19 Jul - 23 Sep. During this time period, 2549 birds were banded in 4477 net hours, for 0.569 birds per net hour.

The highlights of the 2008 season included capturing five new species: Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Bay-breasted Warbler, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Mountain Chickadee, and Western Palm Warbler. Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Bay-breasted Warbler, and Western Palm Warbler are all species in the northwest extreme of their range and breed on the east side of the Rockies, but are seldom recorded from the west side. Ash-throated Flycatcher is a true rarity in the province of British Columbia, and Mountain