



Ontario Forest Bird Monitoring Program Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 1, Spring 2008



Editor's Note

Welcome to the 22nd year of the Forest Bird Monitoring Program! Thanks very much for your contribution to the program.

Now that the Atlas is safely in print, we're back to our usual spring FBMP newsletter. Hope you enjoy reading through both the Atlas and this newsletter and seeing what yourself and other volunteer birders are accomplishing.

Here's hoping that you also enjoy getting out into the forest to check out your site(s) again this year. After a couple of years with no field work, I know I will!

Mike Cadman, FBMP Coordinator

The Forest Bird Monitoring Program (FBMP) began in Ontario in 1987 to provide information on population trends and habitat associations of birds that breed in the forest interior. Sites consist of three to five stations in woodlands. Volunteers perform 10 minute point counts at each station twice between late May and early July, at which time all birds are identified by song or sight.

For more information:

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Steve Maslowski / USFWS

Ovenbird



Steve Maslowski / USFWS

Results Highlights

Over the 21-year history of FBMP field work (1987 through 2007), there have been 257 participants, who have surveyed a total of 377 sites, and recorded a total of 154 species.

In 2007 alone, 43 volunteers surveyed 61 sites, and recorded a total of 112 species (Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3).

The ten most common species in terms of the number of sites where they were recorded in 2007 are:

- Red-eyed Vireo (56)
- Ovenbird (52)
- Black-capped Chickadee (52)
- Blue Jay (50)
- American Robin (48)
- American Crow (46)
- Veery (44)
- Great Crested Flycatcher (42)
- Eastern Wood-Pewee (39)
- American Goldfinch (38)

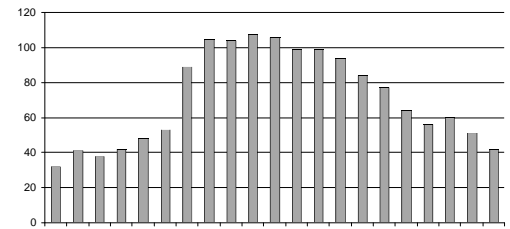


FIGURE 1: Number of FBMP participants since 1987

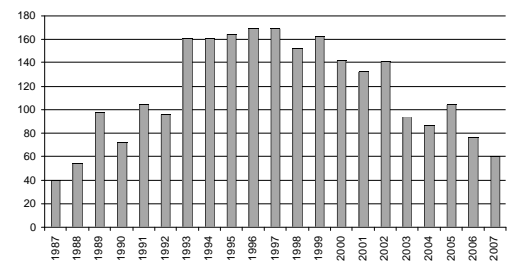


FIGURE 2: Number of sites surveyed since 1987

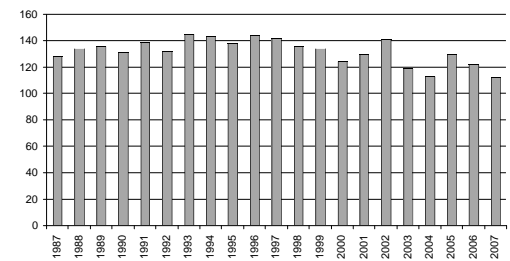


FIGURE 3: Number of species observed since 1987

Trend Analysis

Overall trends from 1987 to 2007 were determined using the WILDSPACE™ Decision Support System, a CWS data analysis platform.

Similar to trends from the 1987-2006 period, the following species continue to show significant declines: Baltimore Oriole, Blackburnian Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Gray Jay, Magnolia Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Rose-breasted Grosbeak,

Swainson's Thrush, Winter Wren, and White-breasted Nuthatch. Joining this list of declining species are Black-capped Chickadee, Red-winged Blackbird and Chestnut-sided Warbler. There were no new statistically significant increases observed in 2007; however, the American Redstart, Pine Warbler, Yellow Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker are all still continuing to rise.



Species trends on FBMP sites, 1987-2007

Table shows the results for species occurring on 15 or more sites

Species	Target ¹	Number of Sites ²	Years of Data	Trend (%)	Sig. ³	LCI ⁴	UCI ⁴
Alder Flycatcher	NT	19	21	11.5		-3.7	29
American Crow	NT	194	21	2.1		-1.7	6
American Goldfinch	NT	132	21	4.1		-3	11.8
American Redstart	T	121	21	3.2	**	0.8	5.6
American Robin	NT	230	21	0.4		-2.5	3.3
Baltimore Oriole	NT	96	21	-3	**	-5.8	-0.2
Black-and-white Warbler	T	118	21	-0.5		-5.6	4.9
Black-billed Cuckoo	T	53	21	5.8		-4.6	17.4
Blackburnian Warbler	T	80	21	-4.9	**	-8.3	-1.3
Black-capped Chickadee	T	215	21	-1.9	**	-3.6	-0.2
Black-throated Blue Warbler	T	86	21	1.9		-2.3	6.3
Black-throated Green Warbler	T	139	21	-1.4		-4.5	1.8
Blue Jay	T	234	21	-0.3		-3.4	2.8
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	T	25	19	3.1		-5.8	12.8
Blue-headed Vireo	T	56	21	-0.8		-8.5	7.6
Broad-winged Hawk	NT	24	21	0.7		-16.2	21
Brown Creeper	T	97	21	-3.9		-8.7	1.2
Brown-headed Cowbird	NT	118	21	1.2		-3.7	6.3
Canada Warbler	T	42	21	-3.7		-10	3.1
Cedar Waxwing	NT	116	21	-2.7		-12.2	7.8
Cerulean Warbler	T	16	19	2.2		-12.2	19
Chestnut-sided Warbler	NT	75	21	-5.4	*	-10.9	0.4
Chipping Sparrow	NT	87	21	0.5		-3.2	4.4
Common Grackle	NT	106	21	1.7		-4.5	8.4
Common Raven	T	59	21	-0.8		-6.7	5.4
Common Yellowthroat	T	96	21	-3		-6.6	0.6
Dark-eyed Junco	T	21	19	-4.7		-24.9	21
Downy Woodpecker	T	150	21	-4.2	**	-7.9	-0.3
Eastern Kingbird	NT	17	21	6.1		-4.1	17.5
Eastern Phoebe	T	30	20	-1		-15.7	16.2
Eastern Towhee	T	32	20	4.5		-5.8	15.9
Eastern Wood-Pewee	T	198	21	-2.5	*	-5	0.1
Evening Grosbeak	T	36	19	-1.4		-13.7	12.8
Golden-crowned Kinglet	T	37	20	-6		-15.1	4.1
Gray Catbird	T	53	21	4.7		-2.5	12.3
Gray Jay	T	15	16	-21	*	-36.7	-1.4
Great Crested Flycatcher	T	210	21	0.6		-0.6	1.9
Hairy Woodpecker	T	146	21	0.2		-5.5	6.3
Hermit Thrush	T	111	21	1.1		-3.4	5.9
House Wren	NT	57	21	0.8		-4	6
Indigo Bunting	NT	61	21	-4.4		-12.2	4
Least Flycatcher	T	96	21	-2.3		-6.2	1.6
Magnolia Warbler	T	70	21	-5	**	-8.3	-1.5
Mourning Dove	NT	110	21	4.1		-2.3	11
Mourning Warbler	NT	45	21	-1.6		-12	10.1
Nashville Warbler	NT	113	21	-4.9	**	-8.4	-1.3

¹NT = Non-target species, T = Target species

²Total number of sites used in the analysis

³** : p < 0.05; * : 0.05 < p < 0.10

⁴LCI = Lower Confidence Interval (%); UCI = Upper Confidence Interval (%)

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Species trends continued...

Table shows the results for species occurring on 15 or more sites

Species	Target ¹	Number of Sites ²	Years of Data	Trend (%)	Sig. ³	LCI ⁴	UCI ⁴
Northern Cardinal	T	77	21	1.3		-3.8	6.6
Northern Flicker	T	136	21	-5.6	**	-8.4	-2.8
Northern Waterthrush	T	92	21	0.7		-4.9	6.7
Ovenbird	T	232	21	-2.3	*	-4.6	0.1
Pileated Woodpecker	T	128	21	-3.2	**	-5.9	-0.5
Pine Warbler	T	67	21	6	**	0.2	12.1
Purple Finch	T	56	21	-2.4		-12.4	8.8
Red-bellied Woodpecker	T	30	19	0.2		-15.1	18.3
Red-breasted Nuthatch	T	107	21	1.8		-9.5	14.5
Red-eyed Vireo	T	248	21	1.1		-0.7	2.9
Red-shouldered Hawk	NT	20	20	-6		-20.3	10.8
Red-winged Blackbird	NT	68	21	-5.8	*	-11.8	0.5
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	T	168	21	-2.8	**	-4.2	-1.3
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	NT	42	21	3.4		-4.6	12.1
Ruffed Grouse	T	77	21	-5.1		-15.2	6.1
Scarlet Tanager	T	152	21	-0.2		-5.9	5.8
Song Sparrow	NT	79	21	-4.7		-12.4	3.6
Swainson's Thrush	T	63	21	-3.9	*	-7.7	0.1
Swamp Sparrow	NT	25	21	1.5		-7.2	10.9
Tree Swallow	NT	23	21	-2.5		-11.6	7.7
Veery	T	185	21	0.1		-1.1	1.4
Warbling Vireo	NT	37	21	-5.6		-12.4	1.8
White-breasted Nuthatch	T	142	21	-2.8	**	-5.4	-0.1
White-throated Sparrow	NT	109	21	-3.4		-8.2	1.6
Winter Wren	T	123	21	-4.5	**	-6.9	-2.1
Wood Thrush	T	151	21	-2.7		-6	0.7
Yellow Warbler	NT	47	21	6.7	**	2.4	11.3
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	T	17	21	-7.6		-28.2	18.9
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	T	113	21	4.8	**	1.8	7.9
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	T	36	20	-0.1		-5.9	6
Yellow-rumped Warbler	T	101	21	-0.5		-5.9	5.1
Yellow-throated Vireo	T	22	20	-3.1		-20.5	18.1

¹ NT = Non-target species, T = Target species

² Total number of sites used in the analysis

³ **: $p < 0.05$; *: $0.05 < p < 0.10$

⁴ LCI = Lower Confidence Interval (%); UCI = Upper Confidence Interval (%)



Black-throated Blue Warbler

S. Maslowski / USFWS



Our Amazing Volunteers

Special recognition is accorded to volunteers who have joined the 20+ years club, namely **Kathryn Lindsay, Margaret McLaren, and Rick Ludkin.**

We also congratulate all of the volunteers who have completed 10 years of participation. In 2007, recognition goes out to: **Nick Quickert and Audrey Wilson.** You will each receive a limited edition FBMP pen and a certificate of recognition.

Volunteers with 5+ years of experience with the FBMP

Years of Participation

20+	Dennis Barry, Kathryn Lindsay, Rick Ludkin, Virgil Martin, Margaret McLaren, Ron Tasker
19	Bill McIlveen, Cynthia Suhay
18	Chris Bell, Bruce Falls, Ron Weir
16	Bruce Duncan, Jon McCracken, Chris Sanders, Dan Strickland
15	Jacques Bouvier, George Bryant, Fred Caloren, Paul Hector, Joe Johnson, Doug Martin, Lynn Paibomesai, Don Scanlan, Ron Scovell, Chris Wedeles
14	Peter Blancher, Chris Earley, Chris Ellingwood, Daniel Entz, Al Harris, James Martin
13	Jim Spruce, Ron Tozer
12	David Cattrall, Ted Cheskey, Rob Crawford, Bonnie Devillers, Connie Downes, Gary Nielson, Don Shanahan, Andy Steinburg, Bill Wilson
11	David Bree, Joanne Dewey, Nick Escott, Manson Fleguel, Stew Hamill, Sarah Mainguy, Larry Martyn, Ted Presant, Jim Wilson
10	Helen Hutchinson, Helen Inch, Karl Konze, Jean Niskanen, Sandra Parsons, Nick Quickert, Reinder Westerhoff, Audrey Wilson
9	Ray Blower, Rob Cheskey, Sue Greenwood, Judith Kennedy, Dave Martin, Deryl Nethercott, Al Sandilands, John Woodcock
8	Mike Cadman, Joan Donnelly, Tony Edwards, James Forrest, Pete Read, Ron Ridout, Peter Stinnissen
7	Sylvia Biribauer, Mike Bouman, Gary Clay, Don Fillman, Richard Knapton, Irev McIlveen, Craig Potter, Paul Pratt, Lynne Richardson, Ilmar Talvila, Dan Welsh, Mark Wiercinski
6	Madeline Austen, Richard Blacquiére, Gerhard Bruins, John Cartwright, Bill Crins, Mary Gartshore, Peter Goering, Cory Harris, Michelle Hudolin, Ross James, John McLaughlin, Erwin Meissner, Kathy Parker, Jack Patch, Bob Sachs, Don Stuckey, Janice Sukhiani, Ken Towle, Steve Wendt, Charlie Whitelaw
5	Alfred Adamo, John Blaney, Terry Bradt, Tom Cosburn, Carol Dersh, Sandy Dobbyn, Richard Frank, David Hawke, Mike Lepage, Ken McIlwrick, Annette Mess, Chris Michener, Richard Moore, Bill Murphy, Kenton Otterbein, Satu Pernanen, Bob Whittam

A Few Notes

Retiring a Site – We know that eventually the day may come when, for whatever reason, you are no longer able to continue to survey one or more of the sites you currently run. It is appreciated if you can let the FBMP staff know when you retire a site. Consider asking a birder in your area if he/she would be interested in taking over the site and offer to help them locate the stations and get them started.

Picking up a Site – New sites are still being set up so if you have an appropriate location for a new site and wish to set one up, please contact the office. If you would like to pick up an existing but retired site, there are a few available although it is easiest when the former volunteer for the site is willing to show you the locations. Again, if interested, please do not hesitate to contact FBMP staff.

New Permanent Station Marking Tags - if the tag attached to the tree marking one or all of your stations is in need of replacement, we now have replacements in stock. Feel free to contact FBMP staff indicating how many you need.

To order printed copies, contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
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Toronto, ON M3H 5T4

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Hairy Woodpecker



Donna Dewhurst /
USFWS