

Kiptopeke

B I R D B A N D I N G S T A T I O N

FALL 2004

Kiptopeke State Park

Northampton County, Virginia



www.ccb-wm.org



www.dcr.state.va/parks/kiptopek.htm

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The 2004 fall season represents the forty-second year of operation for the Kiptopeke Banding Station. Begun by Virginia Society of Ornithology members Fred Scott, Walter and Doris Smith, Mike and Dorothy Mitchell, and Charlie Hacker, the station has been operated each fall since 1963. Over this 42-year period, songbird banders have banded 294,498 individuals of 158 species, captured 143 birds banded elsewhere, and recorded 508 birds that returned to the station in different years.

In 2004, songbird banding was conducted during 99 days between 15 August and 22 November. The station was closed for only a single day during the period due to rain and high wind. The total number of net hours (12,564) operated was a modern-day high. A total of 7,003 birds were banded of 107 species (Table 1). Two additional species (Ruby-throated Hummingbird and Northern Bobwhite) were captured but not banded. Captures included 4,393 (62.7%) nearctic migrants, 2,420 (34.6%) neotropical migrants, and 190 (2.7%) residents. Average capture rate was 55.7/100 net-hours. This rate is the lowest since the station expanded the banding season in 1997. The previous low was 59.7 birds/100 net hours in 2003. The 2004 migration season began with unusually large bird movements through August and classic frontal movements on the nights of September 1, 10, and 18 (Figure 1). Large, steady movements were recorded during the early portion of October with 1,541 birds banded between the 10th and 15th. Throughout the season, daily captures included 1 day over 400, 3 days over 300, 10 days over 200, and 20 days over 100. The 2004 season was a very good year for sparrows, finches, and buntings likely related to the condition of the fallow field adjacent to the station. Captures were particularly high for Song Sparrows (413), White-throated Sparrows (176), Swamp Sparrows (93) and particularly high for Indigo Buntings (139).

Diurnal raptor trapping was conducted during 77 days between 1 September and 2 December. The station was closed for 16 days with total operation hours of 535.75. This is the lowest number of station hours since the season was expanded in 1997. A total of 452 individuals were banded of 9 species (Table 2). Average capture rate was 84.4 birds/100 hours of operation. This capture rate is the lowest since 1997. There were 13 foreign recoveries and 1 bird was recaptured from a previous year. The highest daily capture was 32 birds on 1 October (Figure 2).

In addition to normal operations, the banding station participated in 1 ongoing research project and 1 pilot project during the 2004 season. Feathers were collected from several target species to be used in 2 different stable isotope studies (Smithsonian Institution and Old Dominion University) focused on the relationship between migration phenology and latitude. Red-eyed Vireos were fitted with luminescent packs at dusk to estimate orientation at exodus (North Carolina State University). Banders in residence were Jethro Runco for songbirds and Zach Smith for raptors. Volunteer banders were Deniz Aygen, Steve Cardano, Wendy Fair, Jerri Howe, Robert Klages, George McNeel, Bart Paxton, Bob Reilly, and Fletcher Smith. Volunteer assistants who spent extended periods of time at the station include: Linda Carr, John and Martha Dillard, Shannon Ehlers, B.J. Fields, Jerri Howe, John Young and Renee Hudgins, Nan LaRue, Elizabeth Long, Bob and Kathy Loomis, David Mitchell, Josh Nemeth, Mary Pulley, Matt Ramah, Dan Rauch, Bob Reilly, Lori Rutledge, Elizabeth Sellers, Fletcher Smith, Nick Van Lanen, Alex Wilke, and the Odell family (Abby, Andrew, Cameron, E.A., Margaret & Shannon). We thank the Kiptopeke State Park staff for their generous hospitality and assistance. Special thanks to park director Sam Sweeney and Eastern Shore of Virginia, NWR manager Sue Rice for their continued support. The Kiptopeke Banding Station is financially supported and operated by the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory in cooperation with Kiptopeke State Park and the Center for Conservation Biology at the College of William and Mary. Additional funding was provided by the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries and the Virginia Society of Ornithology.



Bryan Watts - *Station Master*
 The Center for Conservation Biology
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Table 1. Summary of 2004 songbird banding results for Kiptopeke Banding Station.

Common Name	Total Number	Percent of Total	First Capture	Last Capture	High Count Day	High Number
Sharp-shinned Hawk	23	0.33	21-Sep	21-Nov	3 days	2
Cooper's Hawk	1	0.01	20-Oct	20-Oct	20-Oct	1
Virginia Rail	1	0.01	1-Oct	1-Oct	1-Oct	1
American Woodcock	1	0.01	20-Nov	20-Nov	20-Nov	1
Mourning Dove	2	0.03	8-Sep	22-Nov	2 days	1
Black-billed Cuckoo	4	0.06	11-Sep	8-Oct	11-Sep	2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	9	0.13	18-Aug	1-Nov	9 days	1
Chuck-will's-widow	2	0.03	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep	2
Downy Woodpecker	2	0.03	7-Sep	6-Oct	2 days	1
Hairy Woodpecker	3	0.04	15-Aug	24-Aug	15-Aug	2
Yellow-shafted Flicker	3	0.04	24-Sep	12-Oct	3 days	1
Flicker Intergrade	1	0.01	19-Sep	19-Sep	19-Sep	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	12	0.17	11-Sep	10-Oct	4-Oct	4
Traill's Flycatcher	60	0.86	16-Aug	5-Oct	11-Sep	10
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	16	0.23	24-Aug	21-Oct	11-Sep	3
Acadian Flycatcher	3	0.04	1-Sep	11-Sep	3 days	1
Least Flycatcher	6	0.09	11-Sep	24-Sep	9-11, 9-20	2
Eastern Phoebe	20	0.29	23-Sep	15-Nov	21-Oct	4
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	0.01	6-Sep	6-Sep	6-Sep	1
Eastern Kingbird	2	0.03	22-Aug	24-Aug	2 days	1
White-eyed Vireo	10	0.14	20-Aug	30-Sep	9-8, 9-11	2
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	0.01	15-Sep	15-Sep	15-Sep	1
Blue-headed Vireo	17	0.24	30-Sep	2-Nov	10-18, 10-21	3
Warbling Vireo	1	0.01	11-Sep	11-Sep	11-Sep	1
Philadelphia Vireo	3	0.04	11-Sep	13-Sep	11-Sep	2

Table 1. –continued-

Common Name	Total Number	Percent of Total	First Capture	Last Capture	High Count Day	High Number
Red-eyed Vireo	175	2.50	15-Aug	22-Oct	11-Sep	55
Blue Jay	25	0.36	21-Sep	15-Oct	1-Oct	7
Carolina Chickadee	6	0.09	15-Aug	22-Nov	6 days	1
Tufted Titmouse	8	0.11	30-Aug	22-Nov	8 days	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	15	0.21	24-Sep	22-Nov	10-18, 11-22	3
Brown Creeper	25	0.36	7-Oct	22-Nov	23-Oct	4
Carolina Wren	46	0.66	15-Aug	26-Oct	15-Aug	5
House Wren	77	1.10	11-Sep	11-Nov	19-Oct	8
Winter Wren	17	0.24	20-Sep	14-Nov	12-Oct	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	100	1.43	5-Oct	22-Nov	27-Oct	22
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	82	1.17	3-Oct	9-Nov	24-Oct	11
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	6	0.09	15-Aug	12-Sep	17-Aug	2
Swainson's Thrush	27	0.39	11-Sep	18-Oct	6-Oct	3
Veery	62	0.89	17-Aug	1-Oct	11-Sep	30
Gray-cheeked Thrush	13	0.19	20-Sep	6-Nov	1-Oct	3
Bicknell's Thrush	2	0.03	13-Oct	21-Oct	2 days	1
Gr-cheeked/Bicknell's Thrush	1	0.01	4-Oct	4-Oct	4-Oct	1
Hermit Thrush	124	1.77	6-Oct	22-Nov	27-Oct	17
Wood Thrush	5	0.07	23-Sep	6-Nov	23-Sep	2
American Robin	19	0.27	30-Aug	20-Nov	1-Nov	4
Gray Catbird	348	4.97	11-Sep	9-Nov	4-Oct	54
Northern Mockingbird	39	0.56	15-Aug	22-Nov	17-Aug	7
Brown Thrasher	25	0.36	19-Aug	1-Nov	9-22, 10-7	3
Cedar Waxwing	1	0.01	24-Sep	24-Sep	24-Sep	1
Blue-winged Warbler	6	0.09	15-Aug	20-Sep	6 days	1
Golden-winged Warbler	1	0.01	30-Aug	30-Aug	30-Aug	1
Tennessee Warbler	2	0.03	6-Oct	22-Oct	10-6, 10-20	1
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	0.03	16-Oct	23-Oct	2 days	1
Nashville Warbler	9	0.13	25-Sep	6-Oct	13-Oct	2
Northern Parula	31	0.44	11-Sep	10-Oct	6-Oct	8
Yellow Warbler	12	0.17	17-Aug	30-Sep	17-Aug	4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	11	0.16	17-Aug	5-Oct	11-Sep	3
Magnolia Warbler	50	0.71	1-Sep	21-Oct	19-Sep	7
Cape May Warbler	4	0.06	19-Sep	22-Oct	19-Sep	3
Black-throated Blue Warbler	205	2.93	22-Aug	26-Oct	6-Oct	29
Black-throated Green Warbler	3	0.04	5-Oct	7-Oct	3 days	1
Myrtle Warbler	2765	39.48	1-Oct	20-Nov	14-Oct	453
Western Palm Warbler	31	0.44	20-Sep	15-Nov	4-Oct	9
Yellow Palm Warbler	17	0.24	4-Oct	3-Nov	4-Oct	4
Pine Warbler	6	0.09	11-Sep	6-Nov	6 days	1
Prairie Warbler	30	0.43	15-Aug	17-Oct	3 days	4
Bay-breasted Warbler	1	0.01	11-Oct	11-Oct	11-Oct	1
Blackpoll Warbler	18	0.26	28-Sep	23-Oct	4-Oct	4
Black-and-White Warbler	69	0.99	15-Aug	18-Oct	2-Sep	8
American Redstart	438	6.25	15-Aug	21-Oct	11-Sep	49
Prothonotary Warbler	2	0.03	18-Aug	7-Sep	2 days	1
Worm-eating Warbler	17	0.24	15-Aug	22-Sep	23-Aug	3

Table 1. –continued–

Common Name	Total Number	Percent of Total	First Capture	Last Capture	High Count Day	High Number
Ovenbird	53	0.76	15-Aug	16-Oct	19-Sep	8
Northern Waterthrush	75	1.07	15-Aug	6-Oct	19-Sep	17
Louisiana Waterthrush	1	0.01	18-Aug	18-Aug	18-Aug	1
Connecticut Warbler	3	0.04	22-Sep	18-Oct	3 days	1
Mourning Warbler	3	0.04	18-Aug	11-Sep	3 days	1
Common Yellowthroat	222	3.17	22-Aug	22-Oct	11-Sep	30
Hooded Warbler	4	0.06	2-Sep	5-Oct	4 days	1
Wilson's Warbler	4	0.06	13-Sep	18-Oct	4 days	1
Canada Warbler	6	0.09	17-Aug	14-Sep	2-Sep	3
Yellow-breasted Chat	25	0.36	15-Aug	31-Oct	17-Aug	3
Summer Tanager	2	0.03	28-Aug	5-Oct	2 days	1
Scarlet Tanager	4	0.06	11-Sep	13-Oct	4 days	1
Eastern Towhee	28	0.40	8-Oct	11-Nov	24-Oct	6
Chipping Sparrow	30	0.43	22-Aug	20-Nov	1-Nov	5
Field Sparrow	95	1.36	17-Aug	20-Nov	29-Oct	11
Vesper Sparrow	2	0.03	27-Oct	19-Nov	2 days	1
Savannah Sparrow	15	0.21	4-Oct	22-Nov	29-Oct	4
Grasshopper Sparrow	14	0.20	15-Aug	21-Oct	17-Aug	5
Seaside Sparrow	1	0.01	31-Aug	31-Aug	31-Aug	1
Fox Sparrow	9	0.13	28-Oct	22-Nov	15-Nov	4
Song Sparrow	413	5.90	6-Oct	22-Nov	11-1, 11-11	31
Lincoln's Sparrow	6	0.09	6-Oct	11-Nov	10-8 11-11	2
Swamp Sparrow	93	1.33	4-Oct	21-Nov	29-Oct	9
White-throated Sparrow	176	2.51	4-Oct	22-Nov	1-Nov	24
Slate-colored Junco	42	0.60	6-Oct	22-Nov	27-Oct	8
Northern Cardinal	84	1.20	15-Aug	22-Nov	17-Aug	9
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	6	0.09	11-Sep	4-Oct	11-Sep	4
Blue Grosbeak	13	0.19	18-Aug	22-Oct	8-12, 9-16	2
Indigo Bunting	139	1.98	17-Aug	22-Oct	4-Oct	39
Dickcissel	1	0.01	22-Oct	22-Oct	22-Oct	1
Red-winged Blackbird	3	0.04	1-Nov	17-Nov	3 days	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	0.01	1-Nov	1-Nov	1-Nov	1
Orchard Oriole	7	0.10	15-Aug	26-Aug	15-Aug	3
Baltimore Oriole	6	0.09	24-Aug	2-Oct	11-Sep	3
Purple Finch	3	0.04	25-Oct	7-Nov	3 days	1
House Finch	1	0.01	1-Nov	1-Nov	1-Nov	1
Pine Siskin	1	0.01	2-Nov	2-Nov	2-Nov	1
American Goldfinch	230	3.28	22-Oct	22-Nov	1-Nov	120
Total	7003	100.00	15-Aug	22-Nov	14-Oct	478

**KIPTOPEKE SONGBIRD BANDING
(Capture Rate by Season)**

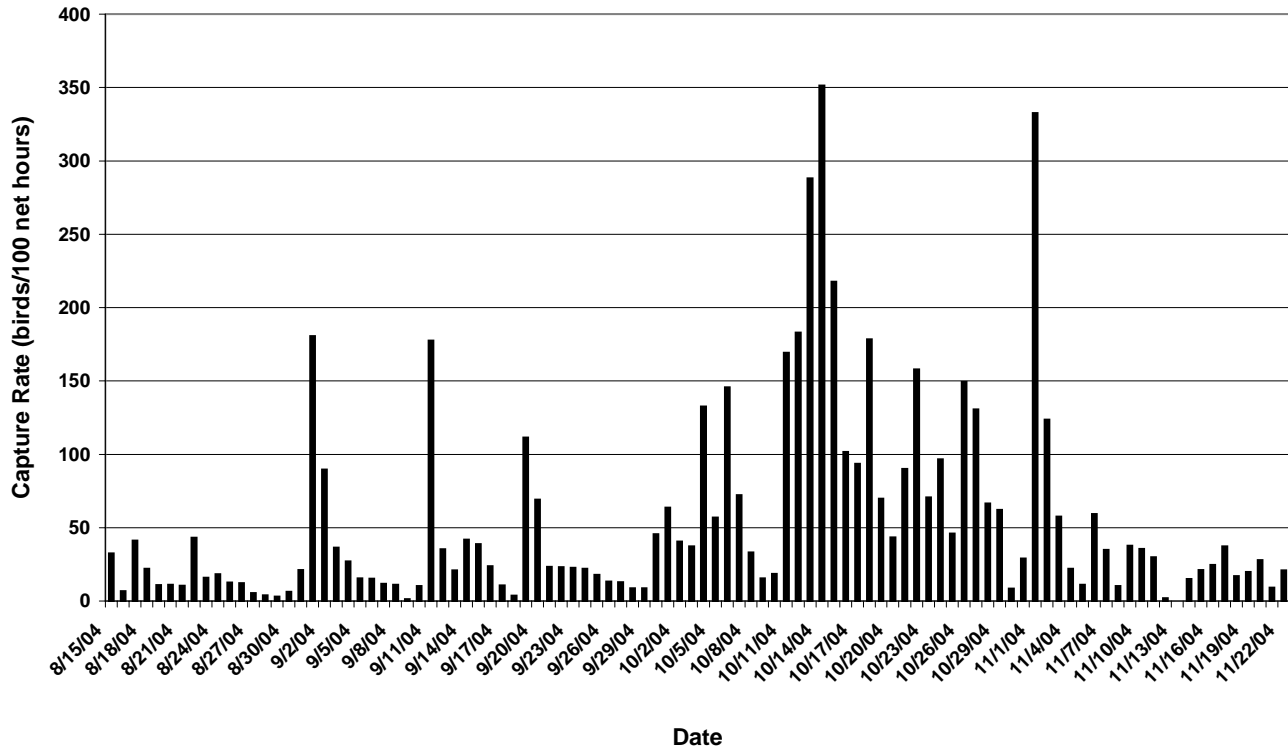


Figure 1. Temporal distribution of capture rates for songbirds in 2004.

Table 2. Summary of 2004 raptor banding results for Kiptopeke Banding Station.

Common Name	Totals	Percent of Total	First	Last	High	High Number
Northern Harrier	5	1.11	6-Nov	22-Nov	5 days	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	113	25.00	13-Sep	2-Dec	19-Oct	12
Cooper's Hawk	133	29.42	1-Sep	29-Nov	23-Sep	9
Northern Goshawk	1	0.22	11-Nov	11-Nov	11-Nov	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	0.22	26-Oct	26-Oct	26-Oct	1
Red-tailed Hawk	57	12.61	19-Sep	2-Dec	3-Nov	9
American Kestrel	6	1.33	12-Sep	27-Sep	9-14, 9-16	2
Merlin	121	26.77	11-Sep	23-Oct	17-Sep	26
Peregrine Falcon	15	3.32	24-Sep	11-Nov	10-1, 10-4, 10-16	3
Total	452	100.00	1-Sep	2-Dec	1-Oct	32

**KIPTOPEKE RAPTOR BANDING
(Captures by Season)**

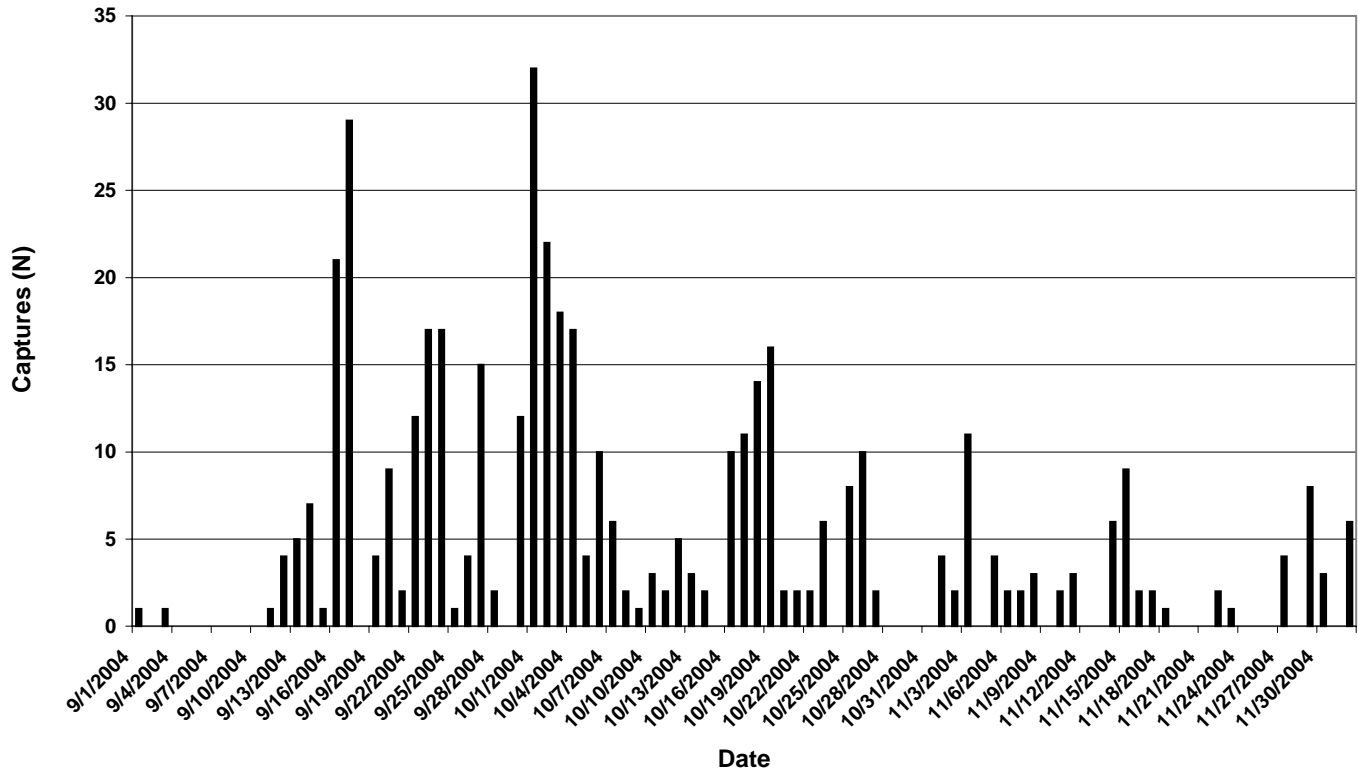


Figure 2. Temporal distribution of captures for raptors in 2004.