



# Ontario Forest Bird Monitoring Program Newsletter



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## Editor's Note

The sweet smells and sounds of spring are now well upon us, signaling another glorious start to the birding season. As the birds are busy establishing their territories and building their nests, we reflect back on another great year for the FBMP. With this year being the last for the second Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, we look forward to getting back some volunteers who have been busy with that project... and we welcome new volunteers to the "family".

Happy birding!

*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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E-mail: FBMP@ec.gc.ca

Blue Jay



Dave Menke / USFWS

## Results Highlights

Over the history of the program, there have been 234 participants who have surveyed a total of 375 sites (Figure 1 and Figure 2). In 2004, a total of 81 sites were surveyed by 53 volunteers.

In 2004, 112 species were observed. The ten most common species in terms of the number of sites where they were recorded are:

- Red-eyed Vireo (78)
- Ovenbird (72)
- Blue Jay (67)
- American Crow (60)
- Black-capped Chickadee (60)
- American Robin (59)
- Veery (55)
- Eastern Wood-Pewee (54)
- Great Crested Flycatcher (49)
- Black-throated Green Warbler (48)

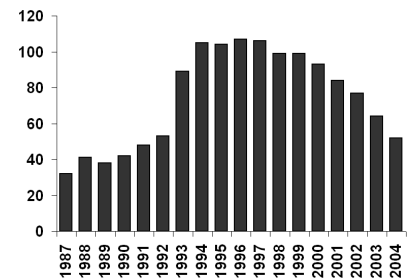


FIGURE 1: Number of FBMP participants since 1987

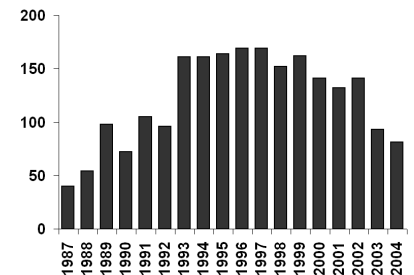


FIGURE 2: Number of sites surveyed since 1987

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



Dave Menke / USFWS

## Trend Analysis Highlights

Overall trends from 1987 to 2004 were determined using the WILDSpace™ Decision Support System, a CWS data management tool.

Trends are similar to those found in the 1987 to 2003 period, with Blackburnian, Magnolia and Nashville Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Winter Wren, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, and White-breasted Nuthatch still showing significant

declines. Joining the list of declining species are Brown Creeper, Common Yellowthroat, and Swainson's Thrush. Species with significant increases remained the same as last year with significant increases seen for Pine Warbler, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Northern Cardinal, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, American Goldfinch, Mourning Dove and Ruby-throated Hummingbird.



Environment Canada

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# Species trends on FBMP sites, 1987-2004

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

Species	Target <sup>1</sup>	Number of Sites <sup>2</sup>	Trend (%)	Sig. <sup>3</sup>	LCI <sup>4</sup>	UCI <sup>4</sup>
Alder Flycatcher	NT	15	12.4		-5.9	34.2
American Crow	NT	189	2.4		-2.1	7
American Goldfinch	NT	124	7.3	**	2.6	12.2
American Redstart	T	120	4.6	**	1.7	7.5
American Robin	NT	225	1		-3.3	5.6
Baltimore Oriole	NT	93	1.4		-5.9	9.3
Black-and-white Warbler	T	113	-0.2		-5.6	5.4
Black-billed Cuckoo	T	46	2.1		-4.6	9.2
Blackburnian Warbler	T	80	-5.2	**	-8.7	-1.5
Black-capped Chickadee	T	207	-1		-5	3.2
Black-throated Blue Warbler	T	83	2.5		-2.3	7.5
Black-throated Green Warbler	T	133	-1.2		-3.8	1.5
Blue Jay	T	227	0		-4	4
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	T	23	9.7		-3.5	24.7
Blue-headed Vireo	T	54	-0.9		-9.5	8.6
Broad-winged Hawk	NT	19	11.6		-9.2	37.2
Brown Creeper	T	89	-4.7	*	-9.6	0.4
Brown-headed Cowbird	NT	113	2.6		-0.7	6
Canada Warbler	T	41	-4.3		-11.1	3.1
Cedar Waxwing	NT	112	-1.5		-11.6	9.9
Cerulean Warbler	T	17	2		-12.1	18.4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	NT	73	-0.8		-9.4	8.6
Chipping Sparrow	NT	83	-0.4		-5.3	4.8
Common Grackle	NT	100	0.4		-8.2	9.9
Common Raven	T	56	-4.4		-10.7	2.3
Common Yellowthroat	T	87	-3.3	*	-7.1	0.7
Dark-eyed Junco	T	21	-3.4		-23.6	22.1
Downy Woodpecker	T	140	-3.9		-8.4	0.8
Eastern Kingbird	NT	15	7.3		-1.7	17.2
Eastern Phoebe	T	30	2.1		-11.1	17.2
Eastern Towhee	T	31	3.6		-5.5	13.6
Eastern Wood-Pewee	T	193	-1.4		-4.4	1.8
Evening Grosbeak	T	35	-0.3		-13.7	15.1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	T	36	-6.9		-15.6	2.8
Gray Catbird	T	51	5.9		-2	14.5
Gray Jay	T	15	-18.2		-35.2	3.2
Great Crested Flycatcher	T	202	0.8		-0.6	2.2
Hairy Woodpecker	T	130	-0.9		-8.4	7.2
Hermit Thrush	T	106	0.8		-4.9	7
House Wren	NT	56	-3.2		-7.9	1.7
Indigo Bunting	NT	57	-3.8		-11.6	4.7
Least Flycatcher	T	91	-2.6		-6.8	1.9
Magnolia Warbler	T	66	-4	**	-7.8	-0.1
Mourning Dove	NT	105	8.5	*	-0.9	18.7
Mourning Warbler	NT	42	1.7		-8.7	13.2
Nashville Warbler	NT	111	-5.4	**	-10.2	-0.4

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 (%)

(Continued on next page)



## Species trends continued...

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

Species	Target <sup>1</sup>	Number of Sites <sup>2</sup>	Trend (%)	Sig. <sup>3</sup>	LCI <sup>4</sup>	UCI <sup>4</sup>
Northern Cardinal	T	72	4.5	**	0.7	8.5
Northern Flicker	T	131	0.3		-9.1	10.7
Northern Waterthrush	T	90	-0.9		-7.4	6.1
Ovenbird	T	228	-1.9		-4.2	0.5
Pileated Woodpecker	T	123	-0.5		-5.1	4.4
Pine Warbler	T	64	6.7	**	1	12.7
Purple Finch	T	52	0.2		-9	10.3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	T	26	7.8		-11.8	31.7
Red-breasted Nuthatch	T	104	1.6		-10.1	15
Red-eyed Vireo	T	242	1.5		-0.4	3.5
Red-shouldered Hawk	NT	19	-4.9		-16.5	8.3
Red-winged Blackbird	NT	67	-5.5	*	-10.8	0.2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	T	164	-2.5	**	-4.4	-0.6
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	NT	38	6.5	**	0.4	13
Ruffed Grouse	T	73	-4.5		-14.6	6.9
Scarlet Tanager	T	143	1.1		-4.1	6.5
Song Sparrow	NT	75	-7.8	**	-14	-1.1
Swainson's Thrush	T	59	-3.2	*	-6.8	0.6
Swamp Sparrow	NT	24	1.3		-7	10.4
Tree Swallow	NT	20	-6.8		-15.2	2.4
Veery	T	178	-0.1		-1.5	1.4
Warbling Vireo	NT	34	-4.3		-12	4
White-breasted Nuthatch	T	133	-3.2	**	-6	-0.4
White-throated Sparrow	NT	103	-2.6		-8.1	3.3
Winter Wren	T	116	-6.3	**	-8.9	-3.6
Wood Thrush	T	147	-1.6		-4.9	1.9
Yellow Warbler	NT	46	4.8	**	0.9	8.8
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	T	17	-0.9		-22.2	26.2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	T	111	6	**	3.5	8.5
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	T	34	-6.3		-14	2.2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	T	101	0		-5.6	5.8
Yellow-throated Vireo	T	23	-1.6		-17	16.7

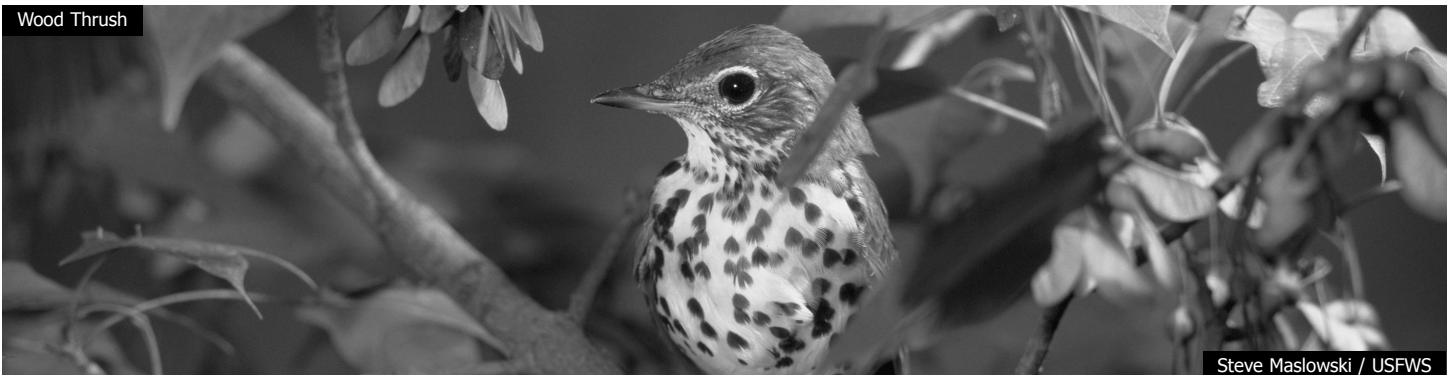
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4. LCI = Lower Confidence Interval (%); UCI = Upper Confidence Interval (%)

Wood Thrush



Steve Maslowski / USFWS



American Redstart



Steve Maslowski / USFWS

# Our Amazing Volunteers

Congratulations to all the volunteers who have completed 10 years of participation. In 2004, congratulations go out to:

**Helen Hutchinson, Karl Konze and Gary Nielsen**

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

## Notes to Volunteers

**Spring Cleaning** – if you've been doing some spring cleaning and have discovered data that you haven't submitted, have no fear – it's not too late to send it in. Although we prefer to have all the data forms in by July 31, we always welcome data submissions.

**Reactivating a Site** – if you've not submitted data in the last three years, your site will have gone dormant and you won't receive data sheets for those sites. If you'd like to reactivate a site, that's not a problem. Just get in contact with program staff and we'd be happy to send a package to you.

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