

BIRD CONSERVATION

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BCR RECEIVES NORCROSS WILDLIFE FOUNDATION GRANT



This fall plumage Semipalmated Sandpiper is one of the species featured in the upcoming video *Beaches*.

The Norcross Wildlife Foundation has provided a grant to BCR to further our video production program. We have previously used borrowed cameras and computer software to make videos, but now we have our own equipment.

The grant along with member contributions has permitted us to purchase a professional quality camera, microphone, tripod and video editing software.

Work on video programming has been stalled for

months because we have not had access to editing software. Now, however, we have begun to assemble video clips into the next program in our planned series on New England habitats: *Beaches*.

“The first BCR field season devoted to finding Eskimo Curlews will begin this August.”



This adult Great Black-backed Gull as well as other gulls are also featured in the video.

ESKIMO CURLEW SEARCH TO BEGIN

The first BCR field season devoted to finding Eskimo Curlews will begin this August. Historically, curlews migrated through southern New England in greatest numbers from late August through early September, so our studies will focus on this time period.

BCR has received National Park Service permission to use the Cape Cod National Seashore as a study site. Historical evidence gathered during our examination of existing specimens has indi-

cated that curlews once used portions of the Cape as a migratory stopover.

Although Cape Cod was once an important fall stopover for fall migrant curlews, its importance was limited primarily to times when north Atlantic storms developed. During such storms, birds that otherwise migrated further out to sea were blown to the Cape, sometimes in very large numbers.

This year, our searches will focus on the Cape

particularly at times of storm events. In the future, however, we hope to head farther afield. In the 19th century, the most important fall staging ground for migrating curlews was on the coast of southern Labrador. We are presently seeking grant funding to extend our search to this area.



The beach at Napatree Point, Rhode Island will be the subject of the next video.

“A May trip to Boston Hollow, Ashford, CT was the highlight of the spring field trip season...”

FIELD TRIPS

A May trip to Boston Hollow, Ashford, CT was the highlight of the spring field trip season, with nearly 100 species being logged over the course of a long morning. Boston Hollow is a well-known hot spot for spring migrants as well as a variety of resident species.

Residents that regularly appear at Boston Hollow include a number of northern-associated species like Northern Waterthrushes, Winter Wrens, Blue-headed Vireos, Common Ravens, Dark-

eyed Juncos and Black-burnian, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue Chestnut-sided and Canada Warblers. Other frequently seen birds include Acadian Flycatchers, Louisiana Waterthrushes, Swainson’s Thrushes and Pileated Woodpeckers as well as Magnolia, Blackpoll, Cape May and Bay-breasted Warblers.

Field-tripping is suspended for the summer months, but will resume in August with some

shorebird watching. Keep your e-mail address updated if you want to be informed about the date of the next trip.

FOREST BIRD SURVEY ANALYSIS CONTINUES



The old growth conifer-hardwood forests of the Boston Hollow region are hot spots for northern-associated bird species. The forest bird survey documented their distribution in this area.

Data entry continues to occupy us as we begin work on the major product of the *Forest Bird Survey of Southern New England*: an atlas of the forest birds of the region. Once data entry and proof-reading is complete, we will compute population densities, distributions and total populations of each species. We

also will characterize all species' habitat use. Additional studies will examine the effects of forest fragmentation on the forest bird community. The first product of our studies is presently available at www.birdconservationresearch.org.

“Data entry continues to occupy us as we begin work on the major product of the Forest Bird Survey of Southern New England...”

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Bird Conservation Research, Inc.

Membership

- \$25 Regular member
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