

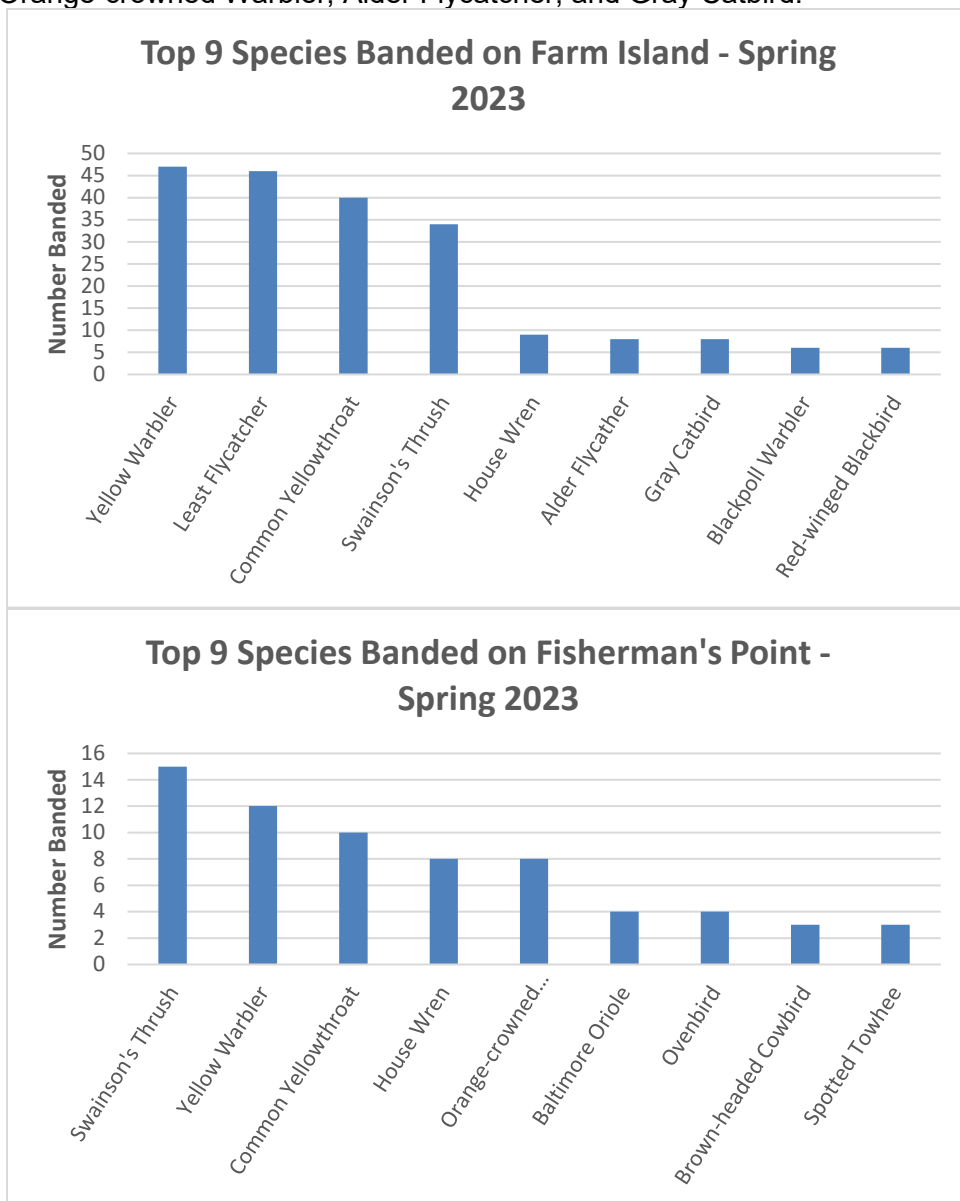


Bird banding update for 2023 Farm Island and Oahe Downstream, South Dakota

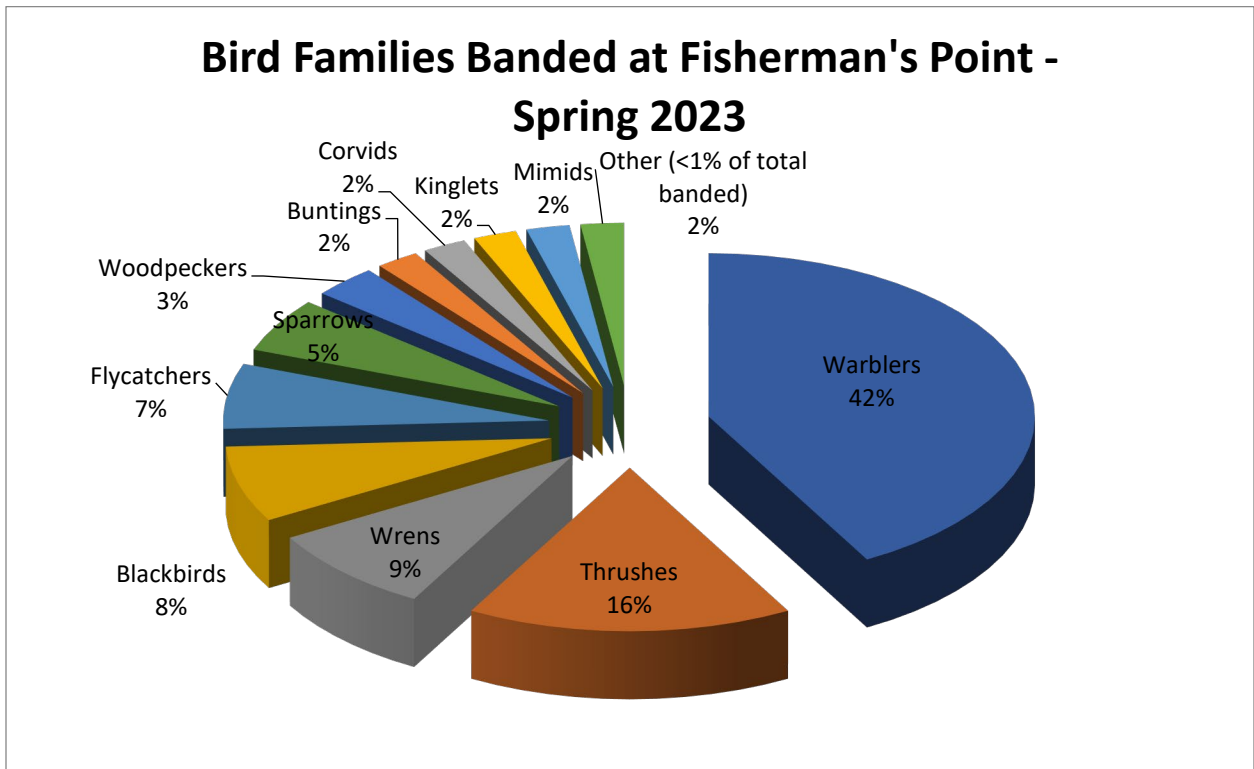
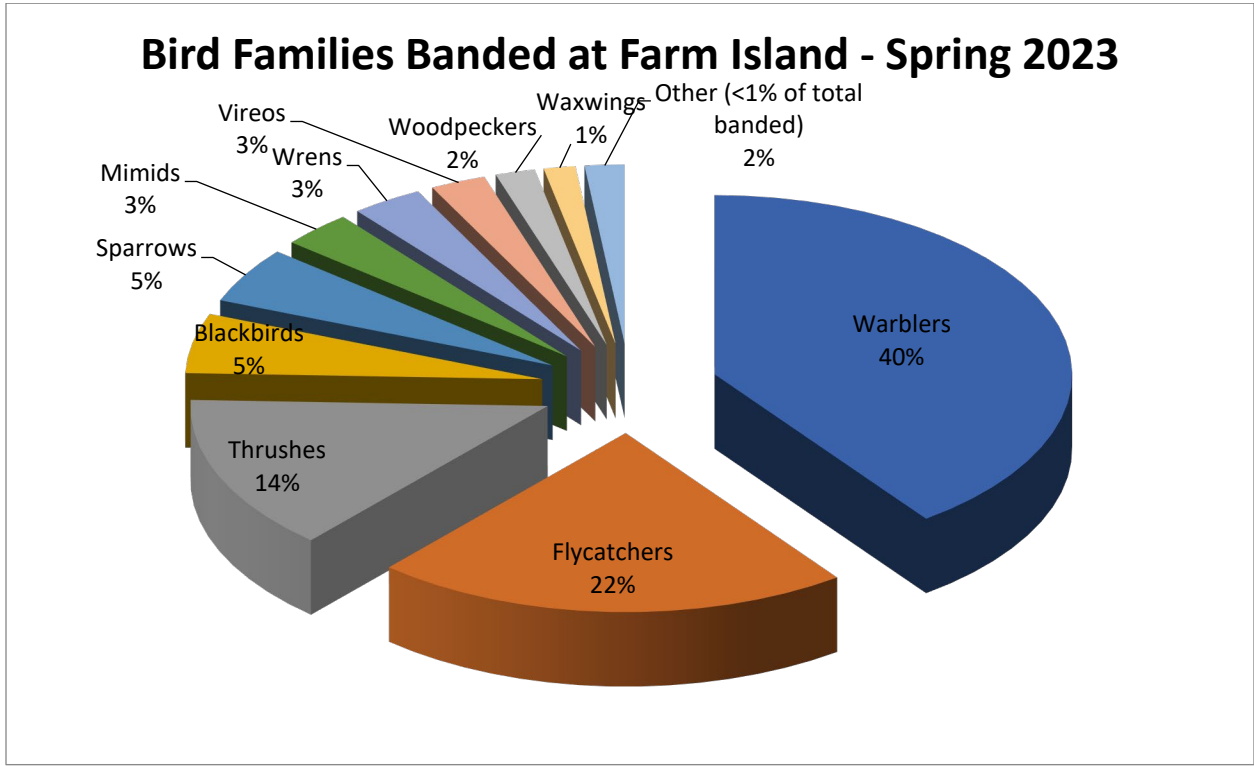
SPRING 2023

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' Wildlife Diversity Program staff band birds during the peak of spring and fall migration at two sites in central South Dakota. The Farm Island State Recreation Area site was established in 1993. The Oahe Downstream Recreation Area site (called Fisherman's Point in this report and also called Diver's Point by local users) was added in 2004.

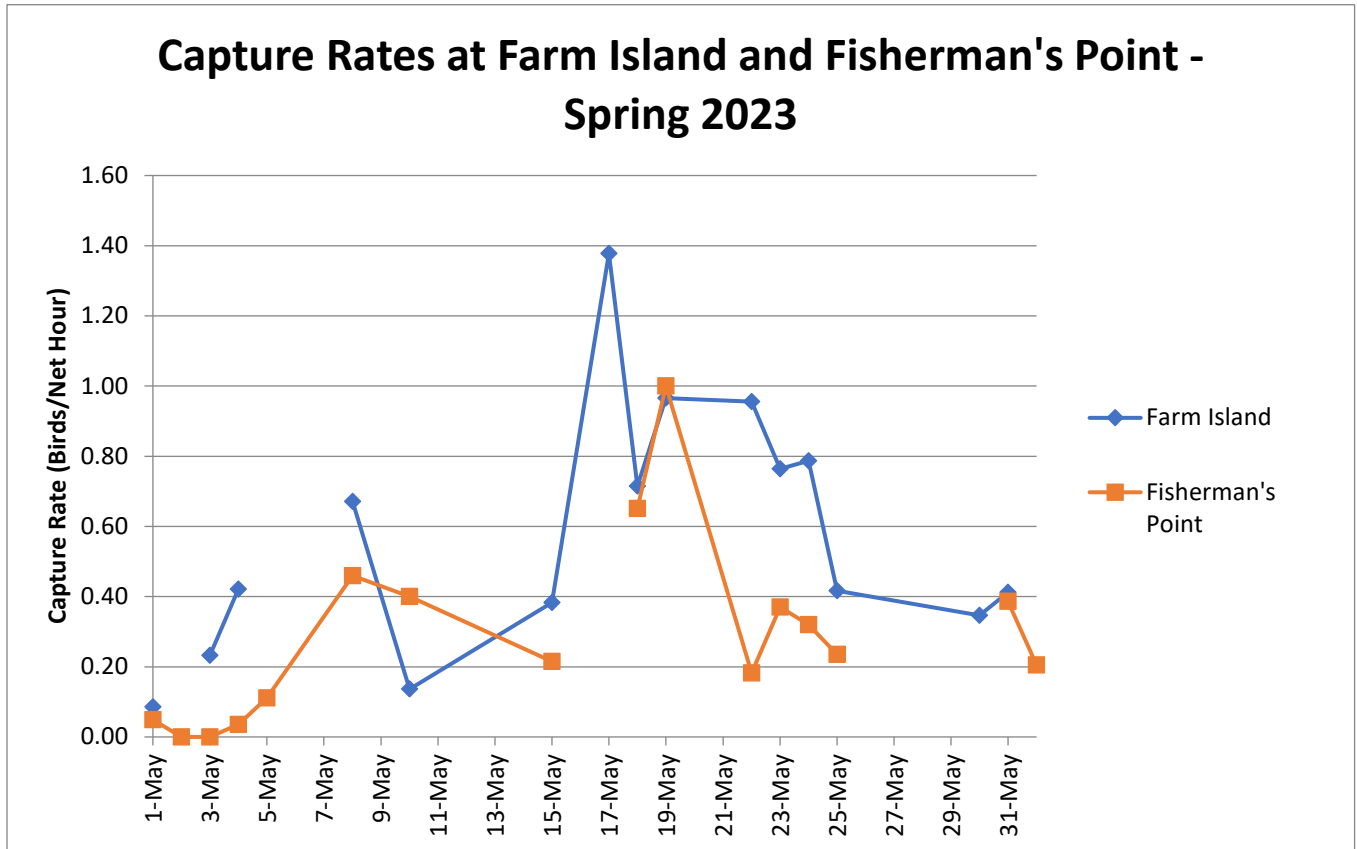
Species: Species most commonly banded at both sites combined during this banding season were Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Swainson's Thrush, Least Flycatcher, House Wren, Orange-crowned Warbler, Alder Flycatcher, and Gray Catbird.



Families: Warblers, thrushes, flycatchers, and wrens were the most commonly captured families at both sites during this season.



Capture rates: A standard measurement for reporting banding effort is by “net hour.” A standard mist net operated for one hour equals one net hour. The capture rate (number of birds per net hour) at Farm Island peaked on May 17, 2023, with a value of 1.4 birds/net hour. Fisherman’s Point’s peak occurred on May 19, 2023, with 1.00 bird/net hour.



Farm Island banding totaled 461.64 net hours during this season, with 341.07 net hours at Fisherman’s Point. We banded 371 birds during the spring of 2023; 278 birds at Farm Island of 42 species and 93 birds at Fisherman’s Point of 28 species.

Recaptures: Table 1 lists birds recaptured at Farm Island during the spring of 2023. Table 2 lists birds recaptured at Fisherman’s Point during the spring of 2023. All birds were originally banded at their recapture sites. Individuals at least 5 years old are highlighted, based on their age at banding. These recaptures illustrate the importance of these particular sites to migratory and resident birds and the potential impact of habitat loss at any area to birds that nest or reside year-round in a particular area. These data also show the importance of long-term banding and band recovery efforts to better understand the needs of migratory and resident birds.

Table 1. Recaptures at Farm Island banding site during spring 2023.

Band number	Species	Sex	Banding date and age at banding	Recapture date	Minimum age if not recaptured during same season*
256199632	Brown-headed Cowbird	M	05/27/2016 (SY)	05/04/2023	7 years, 11 months
285040875	House Wren	M	05/26/2022 (ASY)	05/10/2023	2 years, 11 months
285040817	Yellow Warbler	M	05/16/2022 (ASY)	05/10/2023	2 years, 11 months
233112891	Northern Cardinal	M	09/21/2022 (U)	05/10/2023	Unable to reliably estimate age
154325404	Yellow-shafted Flicker	M	05/19/2022 (ATY)	05/10/2023	Approx. 5 years
289094924	Black-capped Chickadee	M	09/08/2022 (AHY)	05/10/2023	1 year, 11 months
274139738	Brown-headed Cowbird	F	05/19/2021 (SY)	05/15/2023	2 years, 11 months
288097156	House Wren	M	05/11/2022 (SY)	05/15/2023	1 year, 11 months
233112844	Brown-headed Cowbird	M	05/13/2021 (ASY)	05/15/2023	2 years, 11 months
289095155	House Wren	U	05/08/2023 (ASY)	05/15/2023	NA; same season
274024668	Common Yellowthroat	M	09/02/2014 (HY)	05/17/2023	8 years, 11 months
171311283	Common Grackle	M	05/04/2021 (ASY)	05/17/2023	2 years, 11 months
274139761	Downy Woodpecker	F	09/28/2021 (AHY)	05/18/2023	2 years, 11 months
285040817	Yellow Warbler	M	05/16/2022 (ASY)	05/18/2023	2 years, 11 months
288097137	Black-capped Chickadee	F	05/03/2022 (SY)	05/22/2023	1 year, 11 months
287096420	Common Yellowthroat	M	09/04/2020 (HY)	05/22/2023	2 years, 11 months
288097156	House Wren	M	05/11/2022 (SY)	05/22/2023	1 year, 11 months
285040869	House Wren	U	05/25/2022 (SY)	05/22/2023	1 year, 11 months
285040852	Common Yellowthroat	M	05/19/2022 (ASY)	05/23/2023	2 years, 11 months
289095317	Common Yellowthroat	M	05/23/2023 (SY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
233112875	Gray Catbird	M	05/16/2022 (ASY)	05/24/2023	2 years, 11 months
233112882	Yellow-breasted Chat	M	05/25/2022 (ASY)	05/24/2023	2 years, 11 months
289095163	House Wren	M	05/17/2023 (SY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
217000835	Bell’s Vireo	M	05/17/2018 (SY)	05/25/2023	5 years, 11 months
121252298	Red-winged Blackbird	M	05/26/2022 (ASY)	05/25/2023	2 years, 11 months
289094911	Common Yellowthroat	F	09/06/2022 (HY)	05/30/2023	1 year, 11 months
285040850	Common Yellowthroat	M	05/19/2022 (ASY)	05/30/2023	2 years, 11 months
285040873	House Wren	M	05/25/2022 (SY)	05/30/2023	1 year, 11 months
287096420	Common Yellowthroat	M	09/04/2020 (HY)	05/30/2023	2 years, 11 months
154325411	Yellow-shafted Flicker	F	05/03/2023 (SY)	05/30/2023	NA; same season

*assumes hatch date as June 1 for all birds, unless shown otherwise

Abbreviations:

HY: hatching year

AHY: after hatching year (not in its first calendar year)

SY: second year

ASY: after second year

TY: in its third calendar year of life

ATY: after third year

Table 2 Recaptures at Fisherman's Point banding site during spring 2023.

Band number	Species	Sex	Banding date and age at banding	Recapture date	Minimum age if not recaptured during same season*
269199131	Brown-headed Cowbird	F	05/08/2023 (SY)	05/10/2023	NA; same season
285040968	House Wren	U	09/23/2020 (AHY)	05/10/2023	3 years, 11 months
288096806	Mourning Warbler	M	05/15/2023 (SY)	05/18/2023	NA; same season
288096792	Yellow Warbler	F	05/25/2022 (ASY)	05/18/2023	2 years, 11 months
288096781	Common Yellowthroat	M	05/29/2022 (ASY)	05/18/2023	2 years, 11 months
288096804	House Wren	U	05/10/2023 (ASY)	05/18/2023	NA; same season
288096793	House Wren	U	05/25/2022 (ASY)	05/18/2023	2 years, 11 months
287096645	House Wren	U	05/20/2021 (SY)	05/20/2023	2 years, 11 months
288096772	House Wren	U	05/18/2022 (ASY)	05/22/2023	2 years, 11 months
288097099	Yellow Warbler	M	05/10/2023 (ASY)	05/22/2023	NA; same season
288097096	House Wren	U	05/08/2023 (ASY)	05/22/2023	NA; same season
287096629	Yellow Warbler	F	05/17/2023 (ASY)	05/23/2023	NA; same season
287096654	House Wren	U	05/24/2021 (SY)	05/23/2023	2 years, 11 months
241127418	Spotted Towhee	M	05/18/2023 (SY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
288096769	Yellow Warbler	M	05/18/2022 (ASY)	05/24/2023	2 years, 11 months
288096810	House Wren	U	05/18/2023 (ASY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
288096818	Yellow Warbler	F	05/23/2023 (SY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
241127419	Spotted Towhee	F	05/18/2023 (SY)	05/24/2023	NA; same season
288096817	Yellow Warbler	F	05/22/2023 (ASY)	05/25/2023	NA; same season
288096812	Yellow Warbler	M	05/18/2023 (ASY)	05/31/2023	NA; same season
287096627	Yellow Warbler	M	05/17/2021 (ASY)	05/31/2023	3 years, 11 months
288096745	Yellow Warbler	M	05/12/2022 (ASY)	05/31/2023	2 years, 11 months
288096780	Black-capped Chickadee	U	05/19/2022 (SY)	06/01/2023	2 years
239118339	Red-eyed Vireo	U	05/28/2021 (ASY)	06/01/2023	3 years

*assumes hatch date as June 1 for all birds, unless shown otherwise

Abbreviations:

HY: hatching year

AHY: after hatching year (not in its first calendar year)

SY: second year

ASY: after second year

Images from spring 2023:



Male American kestrel banded at Fisherman's Point on May 8, 2023



U.S. Forest Service intern and banding volunteer Jaci Baker with a male Magnolia Warbler, banded at Fisherman's Point on May 15, 2023.

Male Canada Warbler banded at Farm Island on May 22, 2023. This is only the second of this species banded at Farm Island. We have banded 5 Canada Warblers at Fisherman's Point. (Photos by Mark Norton)



This male Common Yellowthroat was recaptured at Farm Island on May 17, 2023. He was originally banded at Farm Island on September 2, 2014, during his first year of life, making him nearly 9 years old at recapture.

This was the first time he was recaptured. This species winters from the southern U.S. through Central America, so this individual has flown thousands of miles each year of his life, returning to breed at his natal area.



Mark Norton, GFP Hunting Access & Farm Bill Coordinator and daughters Raena (front) and Audrey (right) helped band at Farm Island this spring.



Raena Norton gets a close-up view of a Yellow Warbler as Eileen determines age and sex.

Number of birds banded by species at Farm Island, spring of 2023

Species	Total
Yellow Warbler	47
Least Flycatcher	46
Common Yellowthroat	40
Swainson's Thrush	34
House Wren	9
Alder Flycatcher	8
Gray Catbird	8
Blackpoll Warbler	6
Red-winged Blackbird	6
American Robin	5
Lincoln's Sparrow	5
American Redstart	4
Brown-headed Cowbird	4
Cedar Waxwing	4
Myrtle Warbler	4
Yellow-breasted Chad	4
Bell's Vireo	3
Orchard Oriole	3
Spotted Towhee	3
"Traill's" Flycatcher	3
Yellow-shafted Flicker	3
Clay-colored Sparrow	2
Common Grackle	2
Indigo Bunting	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	2
Red-eyed Vireo	2
Song Sparrow	2
Warbling Vireo	2
Willow Flycatcher	2
Black-and-white Warbler	1
Brown Thrasher	1
Canada Warbler	1
Downy Woodpecker	1
E. White-crowned Sparrow	1
Field Sparrow	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	1
Hairy Woodpecker	1
Northern Waterthrush	1
Ovenbird	1

Red-breasted Nuthatch	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	1
Grand Total	278

Number of birds banded by species at Fisherman's Point, spring of 2023

Species	Total
Swainson's Thrush	15
Yellow Warbler	12
Common Yellowthroat	10
House Wren	8
Orange-crowned Warbler	8
Baltimore Oriole	4
Ovenbird	4
Brown-headed Cowbird	3
Spotted Towhee	3
Blue Jay	2
Indigo Bunting	2
Least Flycatcher	2
Northern Waterthrush	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2
Willow Flycatcher	2
White-throated Sparrow	2
American Goldfinch	1
American Kestrel	1
Brown Thrasher	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	1
Gray Catbird	1
Magnolia Warbler	1
Mourning Warbler	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1
Red-headed Woodpecker	1
"Traill's" Flycatcher	1
Western Palm Warbler	1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	1
Grand Total	93

Banders and Acknowledgements: Eileen Dowd Stukel, Silka Kempema, and Casey Heimerl. All banding, marking, and sampling are conducted under a federally authorized Bird Banding Permit issued by the U.S. Geological Survey's Bird Banding Lab. This activity is conducted under U.S.G.S. Banding Permit #21966.

Doug Backlund and his sister Susan and her husband, Matt and Clare Schwarz, Jaci Baker, Claire Kempema, Hayden Stotz, J.M. Weidler, Mark Norton and daughters Audrey and Raena, and Pat Buscher assisted with banding during the spring of 2023.

This activity is supported by Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Project W-95-R-51, Study 9509D and matching funds from SDGFP, Wildlife Division.

Figures prepared by Casey Heimerl. Photos by Eileen Dowd Stukel, Silka Kempema, and Mark Norton.

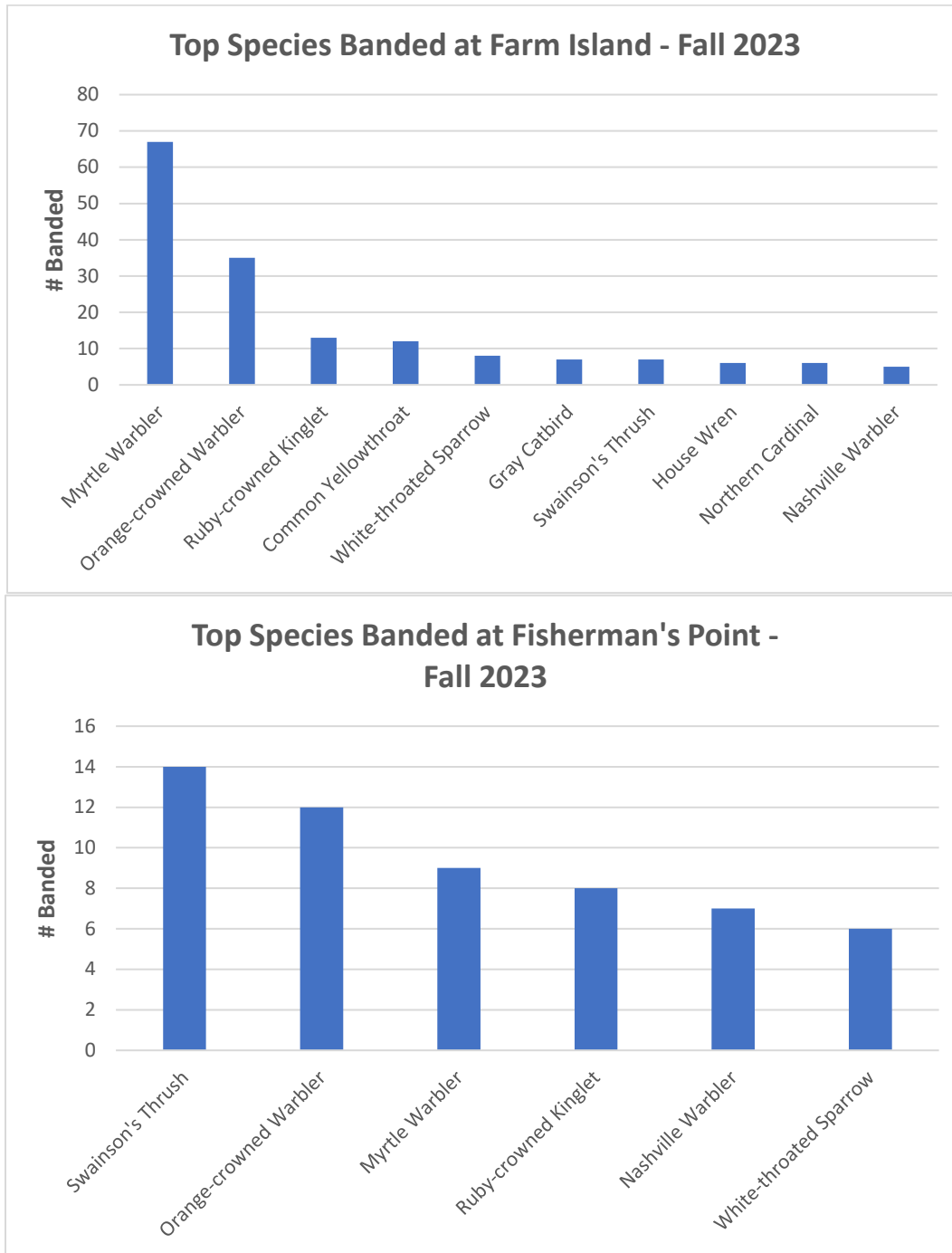
Photos contained in this summary report were taken under supervision of experienced bird banders for documentation and educational purposes with minimal handling and associated stress.



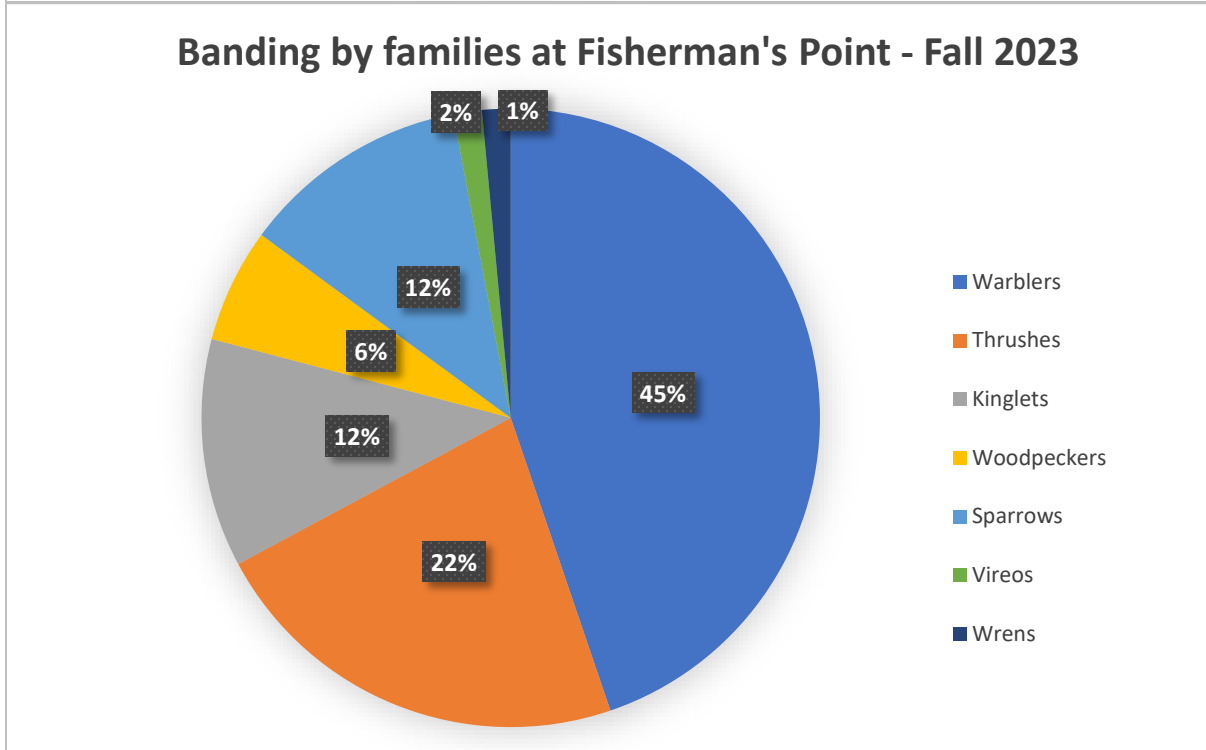
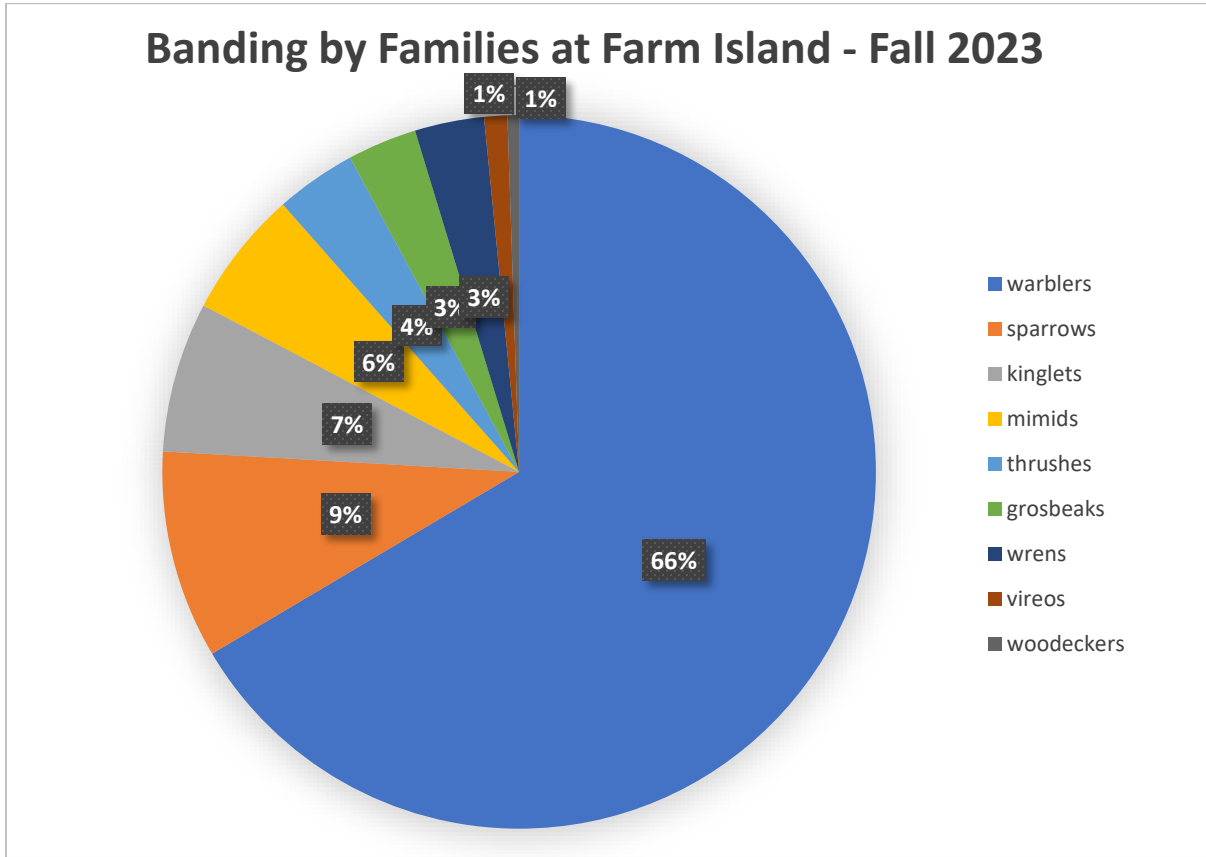
Male Yellow Warbler ready to be extracted for banding at Farm Island (photo by Mark Norton)

FALL 2023

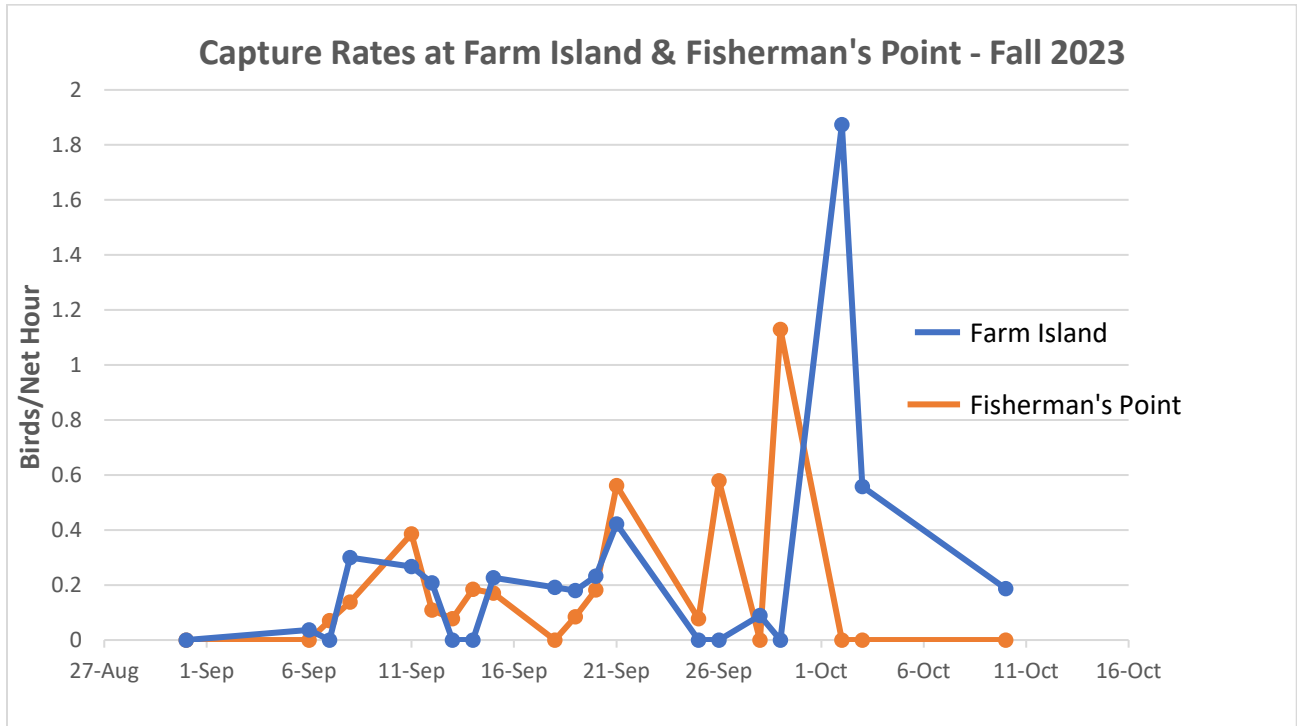
Species: Species most commonly banded at both sites combined during this banding season were Myrtle Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-throated Sparrow, and Nashville Warbler.



Families: Warblers, sparrows, thrushes, kinglets, and wrens were the most commonly captured families at both sites during this season.



Capture rates: A standard measurement for reporting banding effort is by “net hour.” A standard mist net operated for one hour equals one net hour. The capture rate (number of birds per net hour) at Farm Island peaked on October 2, 2023, with a value of 1.9 birds/net hour. Fisherman’s Point’s peak occurred on September 29, 2023, at 1.1 birds/net hour.



Farm Island banding totaled 459.74 net hours during this season, with 372.17 net hours at Fisherman’s Point. We banded 258 birds during the fall of 2023; 191 birds at Farm Island of 24 species and 67 birds at Fisherman’s Point of 14 species.

Recaptures: Recaptures were limited during this season, with no recaptured birds at Fisherman’s Point and 2 recaptures at Farm Island of birds originally banded at this site.

Band number	Species	Sex	Banding date and age at banding	Recapture date	Minimum age if not recaptured during same season*
2891-95317	Common Yellowthroat	M	5/23/2023 (SY)	9/8/2023	1 year, 2 months
			<i>(Also recaptured on May 24 and 31, 2023)</i>		
2411-27206	Spotted Towhee	F	5/23/2023 (SY)	9/18/2023	1 year, 2 months

*assumes hatch date as June 1
SY: second year

Images from fall, 2023:



This Fox Sparrow was banded at Farm Island on the last day of banding – October 10, 2023. We have only banded 14 individuals of this species, all at Farm Island.



A few images of molting Northern Cardinals from Farm Island:



The Gray-cheeked Thrush at left was banded at Fisherman’s Point on September 12, 2023. We have banded 79 individuals of this species at both sites combined, compared to the much more commonly banded Swainson’s Thrush (right - 2,151 banded).

Number of birds banded by species at Farm Island, fall of 2023

Species	Total
Myrtle Warbler	67
Orange-crowned Warbler	35
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	13
Common Yellowthroat	12
White-throated Sparrow	8
Gray Catbird	7
Swainson’s Thrush	7
House Wren	6
Northern Cardinal	6
Nashville Warbler	5
Brown Thrasher	4
Dark-eyed Junco	4
Yellow Warbler	3
Lincoln’s Sparrow	2
Spotted Towhee	2
Wilson’s Warbler	2
Black-and-white Warbler	1
Bell’s Vireo	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	1
Fox Sparrow	1
Magnolia Warbler	1
MacGillivray’s Warbler	1
Philadelphia Vireo	1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	1
Grand Total	191

Number of birds banded by species at Fisherman's Point, fall of 2023

Species	Total
Swainson's Thrush	14
Orange-crowned Warbler	12
Myrtle Warbler	9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	8
Nashville Warbler	7
White-throated Sparrow	6
Downy Woodpecker	2
Yellow-shafted Flicker	2
Ovenbird	1
Yellow Warbler	1
Warbling Vireo	1
House Wren	1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1
Grand Total	67

Banders and Acknowledgements: Eileen Dowd Stukel and Silka Kempema. All banding, marking, and sampling are conducted under a federally authorized Bird Banding Permit issued by the U.S. Geological Survey's Bird Banding Lab. This activity is conducted under U.S.G.S. Banding Permit #21966.

Several experienced volunteers assisted and others joined us for the first time to learn more about this monitoring activity: Jaci Baker, Doug Backlund, J.M. Weidler, Jen Buchanan, Mikayla Kolbeck, Lauren Ryter, Shawna Lofland, and Claire Kempema.

This activity is supported by Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Project W-95-R-51, Study 9509D and matching contributions from SDGFP, Wildlife Division.

Figures prepared by Eileen Dowd Stukel. Photos by Eileen Dowd Stukel, Silka Kempema, and volunteer banders.

Photos contained in this summary report were taken under supervision of experienced bird banders for documentation and educational purposes with minimal handling and associated stress.



Jen Buchanan, SDGFP Wildlife Diversity Biologist for western South Dakota, assisted with banding at both sites.





Two interns from the SDGFP Outdoor Campus East in Sioux Falls visited the Fisherman's Point banding site. At left, Lauren Ryter assists Silka Kempema in releasing a banded bird. At right, Shawna Lofland prepares to release a banded bird.