

**Important Bird Areas Program**

**Bird Blitz 2011-2012: Savage River, Garrett County.**

Savage River is located in the Appalachian Mountain region of western Maryland. Nearly all of the Bird Blitz surveys were conducted within Savage River State Forest. Survey results are summarized below in Table 2, with highlighted species representing those which matched or exceeded their state-level IBA thresholds. Bird Blitz survey totals represent minimum population estimates of breeding pairs. Actual populations are higher because not all available habitat was covered and because some birds along a route may not be counted (if they were silent and/or hidden while observers passed by). Surveys recorded 9 at-risk species at Savage River: Eastern Whip-poor-will, Willow Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Blackburnian Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, and Canada Warbler. Four species exceeded their state-level population thresholds for IBA qualification, including Blackburnian Warbler (threshold = 10 pairs), Cerulean Warbler (10 pairs), Worm-eating Warbler (30 pairs), and Canada Warbler (10 pairs). Bird Blitz surveys recorded a total of 32 Forest Interior-Dwelling Species (FIDS) at Savage River, the most extensive forested landscape in Maryland.

Thanks to all the volunteers who conducted Bird Blitz surveys at this site: Gwen Brewer, Jon Corcoran, Josephine Cox, Tom Field, Glen Johnston, Rich Mason, James Moore, Fran Pope, Jeff Shenot, Lisa Strobel, and Warren Strobel. These data will greatly assist our review of this site as a potential IBA.

**Table 1.** Bird Blitz 2011-2012 survey effort for the Savage River candidate IBA.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Surveys</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Time (hr)</b>
2011	11	18	104.8	52.25
2012	6	10	54.4	22.1
2011-12	14	28	159.2	74.3

**Table 2.** Bird Blitz 2011-2012 results for the Savage River candidate IBA.

<b>Primary Targets – At-risk Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Assemblage</b>
Eastern Whip-poor-will	8	FIDS
Willow Flycatcher	2	Shrubland
Wood Thrush	120	FIDS
<b>Blackburnian Warbler</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>FIDS</b>
<b>Cerulean Warbler</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>FIDS</b>
<b>Worm-eating Warbler</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>FIDS</b>
Northern Waterthrush	4	FIDS
Kentucky Warbler	3	FIDS
<b>Canada Warbler</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>FIDS</b>

<b>Secondary Target Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Assemblage</b>
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	FIDS
Broad-winged Hawk	6	FIDS
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	FIDS
Barred Owl	8	FIDS
Hairy Woodpecker	20	FIDS
Pileated Woodpecker	25	FIDS
Acadian Flycatcher	145	FIDS
Common Raven	9	FIDS
Brown Creeper	3	FIDS
Winter Wren	4	FIDS
Veery	62	FIDS
Hermit Thrush	50	FIDS
Blue-headed Vireo	64	FIDS
Yellow-throated Vireo	5	FIDS
Red-eyed Vireo	475	FIDS
Northern Parula	44	FIDS
Magnolia Warbler	34	FIDS
Black-throated Blue Warbler	93	FIDS
Black-and-white Warbler	80	FIDS
American Redstart	42	FIDS
Ovenbird	418	FIDS
Louisiana Waterthrush	53	FIDS
Hooded Warbler	23	FIDS
Scarlet Tanager	211	FIDS
Chestnut-sided Warbler	16	Shrubland
Eastern Towhee	6	Shrubland
Grasshopper Sparrow	3	Grassland
Savannah Sparrow	2	Grassland
Eastern Meadowlark	1	Grassland
Bobolink	3	Grassland

Prepared by:

Ryne Yarger and David Curson, Audubon MD-DC  
 2901 East Baltimore St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Baltimore, MD 21224  
 Phone: 410-558-2473 Email: [dcurson@audubon.org](mailto:dcurson@audubon.org)