



STOPOVER SITE FIDELITY OF TRANSIENT FALL MIGRANTS





Return of a transient migrant to a site during successive migrations appears to be a rare phenomenon.





**Winker, K. and D.W. Warner. 1991.
Unprecedented stopover site
fidelity in a Tennessee Warbler.
Wilson Bulletin 103:412-514.**

**Embrace arbitrary definition of
“good transients” as individuals
occurring more than 160-km (100-
mi) from regular breeding or
wintering range.**





21 records of 10 species in literature from 1969-1991.

Winker and Warner (1991) reported on a TEWA that returned during three successive migrations.





IBS has experienced a remarkable level of stopover site fidelity.

IBS is at least 30-km from the nearest regular breeding range for all species involved.





IBS Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- **1 year** (n=7, SWTH=4, TEWA, OCWA, YRWA)
- **2 years** (n=4, SWTH=3, TEWA)
- **3 years** (n=2, SWTH, SWTH*)

Overall rate 0.05% (n=25,484)





WPBO Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- **1 year** (n=17, MAWA, MYWA=5
PUFI=3, SSHA=2, SWTH=2, TEWA=3,
WIWA)
- **2 years** (n=6, SWTH=2, TEWA=3,
MYWA)
- **3 years** (n=2, SWTH*, TEWA*)





WPBO Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- 4 years (n=1, SSHA*)
- 6 years (n=1, SWTH)
- 7 years (n=1, SWTH*)

Overall rate 0.008% (n=350,000)





MBO Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- **1 year** (n=5, CSWA=2, TEWA, NAWA, SCJU)
- **2 years** (n=2, NAWA, MYWA)
- **3 years** (n=1, NAWA*)

Overall rate 0.03% (n=24,903)





DMBO Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- 1 year (n=3, OVEN, PUFI, WTSP*)
- 2 years (n=2, OVEN, NOWA)
- 3 years (n=1, PUFI)

Overall rate 0.006% (n=89,443)





LPBO Migrant Recaptures interval between encounters

- **1 year** (n=5, AMRE, MYWA, RBGR, VEER, SAND)
- **2 years** (n=1, AMRE)
- **3 years** (n=1, VEER)

Overall rate 0.001% (n=550,000)





No Migrant Recaptures

TCBO (n=151,404)

BBO (n= 26,441)

LMLBO (n= 56,822)





WHY DOES STOPOVER FIDELITY OCCUR?

- specific sites may be rich in resources needed to fuel migration
- familiarity with a site could enhance survival both in terms of evading predators and ensuring available resources





SUMMARY

IBS	0.050%
MBO	0.030%
WPBO	0.008%
DMBO	0.006%
LPBO	0.001%
TCBO	0.000%
LMLBO	0.000%
BBO	0.000%





WHY IS STOPOVER SITE FIDELITY RARE?

- year-to-year mortality
- duration of stopover
- trapping effort





WHY IBS?

- high quality foraging and security area for stopover and prebasic moult (confirmed by Dunn's analysis of weight gain data)
- migrant stopovers originating not too far away?





WHY IBS?

- IBS is located along a major river within parkland/grassland landscape perhaps creating a natural funnel
- above effect perhaps enhanced by IBS being embedded in an urban matrix

