

TO Jeff Anna, Park Region 2
Kevin Fazzini, Park Region 4
Alan Lichtenwalner, Park Region 1
Mary Lorah, Park Region 3

FROM Teresa A. Kromel *Teresa A. Kromel*
Chief
Outdoor Programming Services Division

DATE January 6, 2014

RE 2013 Cavity-nesting Trails Summary Report

Attached is the 2013 Bureau of State Parks Cavity-nesting Trails Summary Report. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and staff, state parks fledged 2,364 eastern bluebirds and 3,654 other cavity-nesting species during 2013. Despite a colder than normal spring and a wet summer, an increase in the number of cavity-nesting boxes allowed most parks to experience some success as is evident in the slight increase in fledgling numbers compared to 2012. Since the program's beginning in 1980, volunteers have fledged over 59,000 eastern bluebirds and 45,000 other cavity-nesting species.

This year's annual Cavity-nesting Monitors Meeting was held Saturday, October 12 at Jennings Environmental Education Center in Prospect, PA. Environmental Education Specialist (EES) Becky Lubold gave the volunteers a warm welcome, sharing some information on the center and their cavity nesting program. Discussions were held regarding personal safety and recruiting new monitors. Meeting participants were also treated to a program on Pennsylvania insects and bluebirds by Harold Willis, a retired University of Wisconsin professor of biology. Thank you to all who helped plan this event, particularly EES Becky Lubold, EES Supervisor Miranda Crotsley and Center Manager Wil Taylor. Next year's meeting is planned for October 11 at Canoe Creek State Park in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania.

Donna Lang was awarded the 2013 Monitor of the Year. For the past 9 years, she has been an extremely dedicated monitor at Maurice K. Goddard State Park. Since 2005, Donna and several other monitors have overseen the successful fledging of approximately 800 eastern bluebirds. For the past two seasons she has been the sole volunteer, monitoring 90 bluebird boxes and two purple martin colonies. This season, with the help of her husband, Donna began monitoring the wood duck boxes around Lake Wilhelm. We thank Donna for her time, energy and dedication to the cavity-nesting trail program.

The following monitors were also recognized for their seasons of service to this program.

- Arelene Eyer, Prince Gallitzin State Park, 10 seasons
- Jackie Stinson, Prince Gallitzin State Park, 10 seasons
- Joseph Janc, Nescopeck State Park, 5 seasons
- Alice Stehle, Moraine State Park, 5 seasons

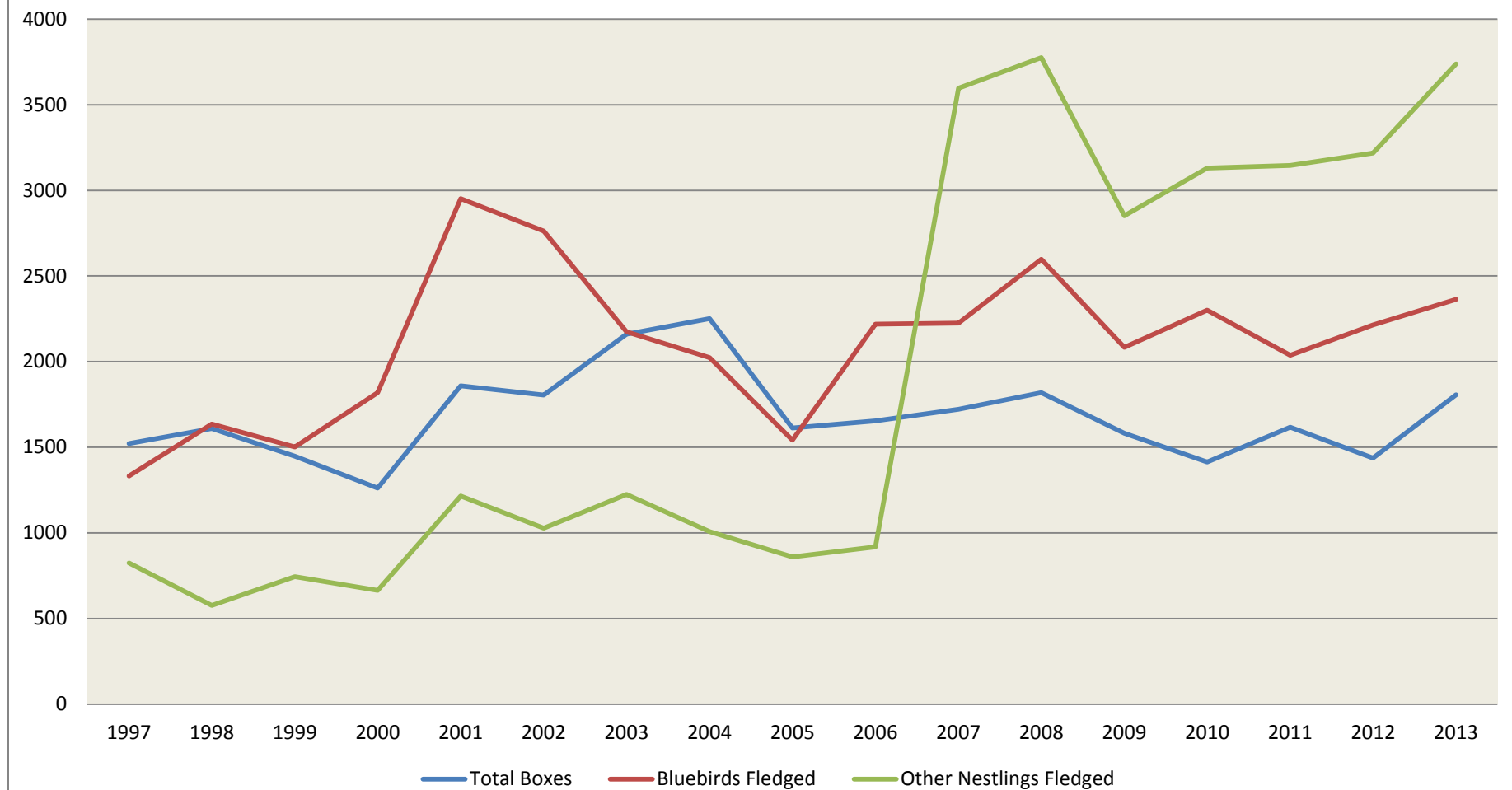
A copy of this memo and report will be sent electronically to all parks and EE centers to share with volunteers involved in the Cavity-nesting Trails Program. Extend a sincere thank you to all volunteers in your region; without them the cavity-nesting program would not be this successful!

Feel free to contact Carly Hitzfeld (chitzfeld@pa.gov, 717-783-3344) with any questions or concerns related to your trail. Remember that the annual report is due by November 1 each year.

Attachment(s)

cc: Ellen Ferretti, Secretary, DCNR
Dave Kemmerer, Director, Bureau of State Parks
John Hallas, Assistant Director, Bureau of State parks
Lori Nygard, Assistant Director, Bureau of State Parks
Bob Barth, Chief, Resources Management and Planning Division, Bureau of State Parks
Ryan Dysinger, Chief, Park Operations and Maintenance Division, Bureau of State Parks
Gretchen Leslie, Director, Office of Education, Communication and Partnerships, DCNR
Greg Czarnecki, Director, Natural Heritage Program, DCNR
Dan Brauning, Biologist, Pennsylvania Game Commission
Dean Rust, President, Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania
Nancy Putt, Secretary, Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania
Headquarters, Ohio Bluebird Society
Chris Novak, Press Secretary, DCNR
Daily
File

Cavity-nesting Trails Program Annual Totals of Fledged Young 1997-2013



Note: Use of revised data reporting forms, which allow for detailed information on other cavity-nesting species, began in 2007.

2013 Species Fledged

