

Hummer Update # 4

January 29, 2023

Fellow Hummer Lovers

I have been a busy boy in January with the extended freeze bringing more hummers to feeders and my annual swing down through central Florida adding lots of Ruby-throated hummers that winter there.

On my way down into Florida on Jan 12, I banded a Rufous in Blakely GA for Donna and Bobby Gilbert and a Rufous for Teresa Nooney in Callaway FL. I started Jan 13 near Alachua where I caught a third year return for Linda and Greg Hart. In Gainesville, I banded a Ruby-throated for Ron Robinson and a Rufous for Mark Gorday. Then I caught my best bird of the trip at the home of Adam Zions. It was a female Black-chinned already wearing a band on its left leg. It was not one of my birds, because I band on the right leg. I reported the foreign recapture to the Bird Banding Lab and found that the bird was banded in 2012 in Paradise AZ which makes that bird one of the oldest Black-chinned hummingbirds ever documented.

January 14 was a good day for Ruby-throated hummers in the Lakeland FL are starting at Roy Morris' home where I banded seven and caught second and third-year returns. At Mary Boston's home I banded four more Ruby-throated and got two great returns with a third year and a sixth year. I banded two for Mike Schenk and went to Bartow FL where I banded three for Cathy and Lloyd Terry. I finished up a good day back in Lakeland banding two Ruby-throated and catching a second year return for Nancy and Joe Misiaszek.

I got started Jan 15 in Valrico FL banding eight Ruby-throated for Steve Backes and catching second and third year returns. The best bird at his home was catching a Ruby-throated I banded in 2018 at Joe Misiaszek's home in Lakeland. Nearby in Dover FL at Rein Verbeek's home, I banded four more Ruby-throated and caught three return banded birds including a second year, a third year, and a fifth year. Near Brooksville, I banded a Ruby-throated for Chris and David Cock and then finished up in Dunnellon where I banded a Rufous for Carol Yarnell.

I had a travel day Jan 16 starting in Gainesville FL banding a Ruby-throated for Linda Hensley and finished in Sea Island GA banding a Ruby-throated for Joyce Mattox.

I made a quick trip to Pensacola Jan 20 banding a Ruby-throated for Darlene Blair, a Ruby-throated for Kay Keigley, and a Black-chinned for Marvin Morris.

New reports have dropped off the table now, and I think the rush of winter banding is about over. I'll try to find enough new birds for a couple of more trips to the coast, so please let me know if you get a new hummer.

Thanks

Fred