



Burroughs Audubon Society

The Greater Kansas City Chapter of the National Audubon Society

2025 Prothonotary Warbler Nest Box and Migration Study Results

Gabe McClain (Pittsburg State Graduate Student in Dr. Andy George's Lab) shared his 2025 Pittsburg State University data with Burroughs Audubon. His results are as follows:

2025 Pittsburg State University Results

In total, Pittsburg State University had 27 nests where eggs were laid by Prothonotary Warblers (PROWs). Of those nests, seven failed for various reasons. In total, we banded 51 adult PROW and 74 nestlings. We had 69 nestlings fledge, which means five nestlings were banded prior to some form of predation or abandonment. Surprisingly, this means we had approximately a 76 percent success rate in our nest boxes this summer.



Gabe McClain, left and Dr. Andy George with a Prothonotary Warbler.

The results Gabe reports are similar to our Kansas and Missouri Master Naturalist and citizen scientist results below.

2025 Master Naturalist and Citizen Scientist Results from Kansas and Missouri

We had 20 total nests where eggs were laid by PROW with 66 fledges. Of the 20 total nests, 16 were successful and four were failures, for an 80 percent successful nest rate. Working with Gabe, Andy, Kenzie Snell, and Sara Blunk, 11 of our adult PROW were given leg color bands, and three male PROW have barometric pressure geolocators to track their travels.

We also placed silver Federal leg bands on nestlings that met banding criteria. In early summer 2026, our banding team plans to recapture the birds with barometric pressure geolocators, remove their geolocator, and download their data to learn where they traveled over the winter. The process is more difficult than it sounds, but this is our plan!