

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update Aug 1 - 14, 2010



Just like that we are on to fall banding; it always feels like the summer goes by so quickly when you get to August, despite the fact that the leaves are still green, and on the trees! We are glad to have an increase in the number of species we are catching—yes the Least Flycatchers are still the most common, but we've been pulling warblers out of the nets! Who doesn't love a day where you catch a Blackpoll, American Redstart, Black-throated Green, Canada, Common Yellowthroat, Myrtle, Northern Waterthrush, Ovenbird, Tennessee, or Wilson's Warbler?



We've even had a few early sparrows, such as the Lincoln's and the juvenile Slate-coloured Junco. The Junco in particular has been hanging around for a few weeks now but just doesn't seem to be learning where the nets are, as we have to extract and release it every few days. I also captured two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in the first week of August, while they are a very cool bird to see and catch, the punishment they inflict with that bill sometimes makes me question my motivations for banding...



A final nest of House Wrens was banded on Aug. 3rd, and a final visit to the Northern Harrier nest was made on August 8th. One young harrier flew off as I neared the nest, and I could still spot two other youngsters from 20 ft away. Presumably the fourth had already fledged, I remember one very active chick that we dubbed 'the runner' who was all too eager to depart the nest the day we approached to band back in July, and I'm assuming that is the individual that has already left! It has been fascinating to follow the progress of these youngsters from incubation through to hatching and fledging. I hope that we will see some banded Harriers cruising the marshy areas at BBO next year.



Some renovations have been going on at the lab, Al and a crew have re-shingled half of the roof on the lab, as well as setting up proper gutters with a downspout leading directly into our rain barrel. Many thanks to the hard workers who put in the hours on this project!



When the birds come out, it seems the people come out to see them as well, we had lots of visitors through the beginning of August including; Carla, Austin, Taylor and Luna, Tamara, her three dogs (Koda, Rio, and Odin), Lisa, Sam, Kate and Buttons, as well as Al and the work crew.

Table 1. Results from Fall Migration Monitoring August 1 - 14, 2009.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	0	2
American Goldfinch	5	0	0	0	0	5
American Redstart	3	0	0	0	0	3
American Robin	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-and-White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-capped Chickadee	14	10	1	0	0	25
Blackpoll Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Canada Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	28	4	0	0	6	38
Chipping Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Common Yellowthroat	1	0	0	0	0	1
Downy Woodpecker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Eastern Phoebe	2	0	0	0	0	2
Hairy Woodpecker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush	1	0	0	0	0	1
House Wren	10	5	0	0	1	16
Least Flycatcher	99	12	0	0	6	117
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Myrtle Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Waterthrush	1	0	0	0	1	2
Ovenbird	1	0	0	0	0	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2	0	0	0	0	2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	0	0	0	1	1
Slate-coloured Junco	1	2	0	0	4	7
Tennessee Warbler	17	1	0	0	3	21
Veery	1	0	0	0	0	1
Warbling Vireo	4	1	0	0	0	5
Wilson's Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Yellow-shafted Flicker	2	0	0	0	1	3
Yellow Warbler	15	3	0	0	0	18
Total	224	38	1	0	23	286

Net Hours: 718.25 NH
Capture Rate: 39.8 birds/ 100 NH

- ¹ Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO.
- ² Banded at the BBO > 90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).
- ³ Banded at a location other than the BBO.
- ⁴ Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).