Weekly Update August 6th to 12th, 2016

With the Young Ornithologists' Workshop wrapping up on the 6th and the final round of MAPS completed on the 7th, it's back to business as usual here at the BBO. MAPS was a huge success, with over 500 birds caught throughout the program. No official analysis has been conducted yet, but we all have the sense of the momentous change in number of birds caught and diversity when compared to our previous sites.

Our highest catch at our migration station is still by far the Least Flycatcher, but we are also catching quite a few Tennessee Warblers and Yellow Warblers which are keeping banding interesting. We are still awaiting the large influx of migrants, but are happy to keep our skills sharp on some familiar species.

In the mean time, we are also having fun with the mammal population here in the natural area. We've had some close encounters with Frank (the resident porcupine), bats in both their bat boxes and also camping out in our nestboxes, a flying squirrel in a nestbox, hares all around the lab, and a weasel sighting (either short-tailed or long tailed).

We've also been working on digging a new hole for our "throne", which is not our favorite job, but every 15 years or so, it must be done. A shout-out to Jeremy who put in some serious effort and has almost completed the task in only an hour and a half of work!



A surprise! A flying squirrel found in a nestbox. Photo Credit: Nikki Paskar

Thanks to Suzanne, Helen & Jackie, Geoff & Gemma, Jeremy, Helmi, Jordan, and Nikki for being superb visitors and volunteers!

Migration Monitoring

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	4					4
American Goldfinch	4					4
Black-capped Chickadee	2	9				11
Clay-coloured Sparrow	4	1				5
Downy Woodpecker	1					1
Hairy Woodpecker	1					1
House Wren	8	4				12
Least Flycatcher	41	10	1		3	55
Lincoln's Sparrow	1					1
Northern Waterthrush	1					1
Ovenbird	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	17	1				18
Trail's Flycatcher	5					5
Warbling Vireo	4	2				6
White-breasted Nuthatch	1					1
Yellow Warbler	12	6				18
Total	107	33	1	0	3	144

Birds Caught	144
Net Hours	474.5
Capture Rate:	30.35

Capture Rate was 30.35 birds/100 Net Hours.

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Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	3					3
Black and White Warbler	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee	2	2				4
Clay-coloured Sparrow	6					6
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
House Wren	1					1
Least Flycatcher	12	1				13
Marsh Wren	9	1				10
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2					2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1					1
Song Sparrow	2					2
Tennessee Warbler	4					4
Warbling Vireo	1					1
Yellow Warbler	19	1				20
Total	65	5	0	0	0	70

Birds Caught 70
Net Hours 60
Capture Rate: 116.67

Capture Rate was 116.67 birds/100 Net Hours.