

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update May 29 – June 4, 2023



A lovely male Magnolia Warbler shows off his spring plumage.

What a great week for migration monitoring! Many new species for the spring season were captured including two very handsome boreal warblers: a Canada Warbler and a Magnolia Warbler! In addition staff were delighted to band the first Cedar Waxwings and Rose-breasted Grosbeak of the season. These highlights were of course joined by many of the usual Least Flycatchers, Clay-coloured Sparrows, and Yellow Warblers that keep us busy each morning.

While spring migration feels like it only just begun, the summer season is just right around the corner. Staff spent much of the week preparing for the start of BBO's MAPS (**M**onitoring **A**vian **P**roductivity and **S**urvivorship) program on June 10, which also marks the end of our spring migration monitoring for the year.

We have also been hard at work monitoring nests throughout the natural

area. Staff member Cala has already found several Least Flycatcher nests as part of her research on their breeding biology, and a few other nests have been found along the way as well. We were also delighted to find out that our Purple Martin houses once again have active nests in them! One nest already has eggs and several are partially constructed. We're looking forward to banding the chicks once they're old enough!

Thank you to all our volunteers this week: Kalyssa, Gabby, Hazel, and Charlotte! Your help is greatly appreciated!

Canada Warblers are not frequently captured at the BBO in spring, which made this bird all the more special!



Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Redstart	1					1
American Robin			1			1
Baltimore Oriole	2	10	2		1	15
Brown-headed Cowbird	1					1
Canada Warbler	1					1
Downy Woodpecker		1				1
Gray Catbird	2					2
Hairy Woodpecker					1	1
House Wren	6	4				10
Least Flycatcher	19	28	1			48
Mourning Warbler	1					1
Red-winged Blackbird	6					6
Swainson's Thrush	4					4
Trail's Flycatcher	2					2
Tree Swallow		1				1
Warbling Vireo	2					2
Yellow Warbler	1	3				4
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2				2
TOTALS	48	49	4	0	2	103

383 net-hours

26.9 captures/100 net-hours

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).

Table 2. Experimental Nets Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	1					1
American Goldfinch	3					3
American Redstart	3					3
Baltimore Oriole	2	3	1			6
Cedar Waxwing	3					3

Clay-coloured Sparrow	17	10	1		2	30
Common Yellowthroat	7					7
Gray Catbird	2					2
House Wren	3				2	5
Least Flycatcher	21	5	1		2	29
Magnolia Warbler	1					1
Mourning Warbler	1					1
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Red-winged Blackbird	2					2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1					1
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	1					1
Traill's Flycatcher	15	1				16
Warbling Vireo	1		1			2
Western Wood-pewee	2					2
White-throated Sparrow	1					1
Yellow Warbler	14	14	4		1	33
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
TOTALS	104	33	8	0	7	152

146.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

103.7 captures/100 net-hours

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).