

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Update: Summer Banding July 10-19, 2023



Just like that, our MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) program appears to be winding down with capture rates, however more and more juveniles have been spotted about at our baths and feeders! The MAPS project aims to gather data on not only who is breeding here, but in what time-frames, what volumes of both parents and offspring, and how many of the young are surviving into adulthood. BBO operates three stations every ten days to gather this information. This round has been fairly smooth sailing yet again with only a few early net closures due to winds, but the minimum hours of net time was exceeded at each station on their respective day. Some exciting captures in this round include the elusive Common Grackle, two Ovenbirds and a good smattering of molting Tennessee Warblers.



Between MAPS stations leaves many summer days that always go by too fast, where staff are still hard at work getting on top of tasks before migration monitoring, Young Ornithologists workshop, as well as extra projects capitalizing on the summer sun! The Least Flycatcher Nest Monitoring continues with Cala and support, capturing survivorship and clustering data on our abundant little Leasty's, and Marsh Breeding Bird Monitoring has been completed by Sierra, who wrapped up the habitat assessment

component this week, as well as piloting an Invasive Plant protocol.

A highlight of the week included hosting about 16 people from the Meti Nation of Alberta (MNA) for a bird walk and talk. We were able to demonstrate banding for 2.5 hr with exciting captures including Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, the Common Grackle and more Tennessee Warblers. There was also a walk led out to the weir, and the chance to hear one member of MNA speak to their experience of hunting water fowl, and the conservation around that.

Other exciting news was welcoming our new long-term volunteer, Braxton Inges, making her trek up from Hawaii to join us for about a month. She's already begun to apply her skills and experience as she assists the team here with odd tasks preparing for busy times coming up.



Table 1. MAPS Banding Data 2023

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	TOTAL
Least Flycatcher	21	6	3		1	31
Black-Capped Chickadee	1					1
House Wren	2					2
Cedar Waxwing	6					6
Warbling Vireo	2		1			3
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	9				1	10
Yellow Warbler	6	3	2		1	12
Black-&-white Warbler	1					1
Ovenbird	2					2
Song Sparrow	6	3			1	10
White-throated Sparrow	1		1			2
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	1		1			2
American Goldfinch	2					2
Common Grackle	1					1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2					2
Grey Catbird		1				1
TOTAL	64	13	8	0	4	89

139.5 net hours

63.80 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).