



Red-breasted Nuthatch

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update August 15 - 30, 2010

Banding has been a real rollercoaster ride these past two weeks at the BBO. Our busiest and best days with great species diversity (18 in one day!) and a comfortable 30 birds in the nets, contrasted alongside painfully slow days with almost no catches at all. The weather has also given us a bit of a hard time, with a few days of rain and strong, gusty winds.

It is really great to see some new species still coming through on migration. As usual, the warblers never fail to make an impression, and we were pleased to see the American Redstarts taking the lead over the Least Flycatchers in our daily capture numbers. We have also enjoyed the waves of Tennessee, Magnolia, and Wilson's Warblers that gather in the nets, as well as the occasional Ovenbird.

I was also very excited to finally get a close-up look at a Rose-Breasted Grosbeak, all the others captured this year have occurred when I was not around! They certainly are formidable birds, with an impressive (and strong) beak. Thanks to Katie for taking up the painful task of extracting this bird. Other favourites were the Mourning Warbler, and the Red-eyed and Blue-headed Vireos, and the both the White and Red-breasted Nuthatches.



The Broad-winged Hawk

We also *finally* caught a raptor in the nets! A baffled looking Broad-winged Hawk was found hanging in net 8 on the 16th. It was a very cool bird to see in the net as I came around the corner, that's for sure!



Classy black cap on a male
Wilson's Warbler

There have been a lot of visitors through the natural area again these past few weeks. Thanks Maureen for coming and spending the day banding with us, as well as Zoltan, who has banded in Romania, and David, who has experience banding in the UK and Sweden. Helena, Nikki, Leona, Gail, and Roger showed up just in time for a spectacular catch of warblers, and Patrick shared some of his impressive pictures with Katie and I. Thanks also to George who came to visit us with his wife, June.

Table 1. Results from Fall Migration Monitoring August 15 – 30, 2010.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	4	0	0	0	0	4
American Redstart	29	0	0	0	2	31
Black-and-White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-capped Chickadee	3	6	0	0	2	11
Blue-headed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blackpoll Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Broad-winged Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	3	2	1	0	0	6
Hairy Woodpecker	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush	2	2	0	0	0	4
House Wren	3	4	0	0	0	7
Least Flycatcher	37	4	1	0	1	43
Magnolia Warbler	9	0	0	0	1	10
Mourning Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Myrtle Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Waterthrush	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ovenbird	7	0	0	0	0	7
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	0	0	0	1	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	0	0	0	0	1
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	0	0	0	1	1
Slate-colored Junco	0	1	0	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	5	0	0	0	0	5
Tennessee Warbler	11	1	0	0	0	12
Warbling Vireo	6	0	0	0	0	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	0	0	0	0	1
Western Tanager	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wilson's Warbler	4	0	0	0	1	5
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	0	2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yellow Warbler	13	1	0	0	1	15
Total	157	22	2	0	10	191

Net Hours: 836.75 NH

Capture Rate: 22.8 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).