

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update August 16th to 31st, 2014

Fall migration is well underway!!! From the 16th to the 31st we managed to catch 294 birds! Migration has been busy and very exciting. Some of the highlights in this time period included American Redstart (27 captured!), Blue-headed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Canada Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Orange-crowned Warbler. The BBO staff have been filled with suspense and adrenaline from one net check to the next.

Sightings on daily census have been few and far between thus far, but things are certain to pick up in September. The lakebed has yielded a few sparrow species here and there but the usual abundance of Red-tailed Hawks and Northern Harriers has not been observed. Therefore we have relied heavily on banding to survey passing birds and the new nets, in conjunction with the old, have



kept us busy. The new nets caught a total of 147 birds of 19 species in 357 total net hours. Comparatively the old nets caught a total of 147 birds as well but of 21 species in 733.5 total net hours. The results are summarized in tables 1 and 2 below.

The lab received quite a few infrastructure updates recently, mostly thanks to Al Degroot. Al removed our old fireplace and installed a much more user-friendly propane heater! Once things cool off in September the BBO staff will be very grateful for this upgrade. Al also installed 4 new LED light strips, 3 in the kitchen and one in the banding lab. We are now able to see birds much more clearly first thing in



the morning when processing them in the lab. Thanks All!

Being the end of August, the BBO staff was sad to see their summer assistant head back to school. Jerry Gordy was an integral part of the team this summer, allowing us to complete more work than we could have ever imagined while having loads of fun as we went. Jerry is back at the University of Alberta for his senior year in Environmental and Conservation Sciences. We will miss you Jerry!

The BBO staff received an incredible amount of support during this time period and work like to thank the following individuals for helping us with various projects, keeping us company, and adding enthusiasm to our day: Al Degroot, Geoff Holroyd, Allyn Essau, Michelle Zarowny, Norma Jane-Young, Victoria Giacobbo, Alyssa Bohart, Jamie and family, John and family, Irene Crosland (our field mom!), Zac Macdonald, Rachel Keglowitsch, Catherine Beck, Zoltan and Isabella, Steve Anderson, and Mariana.

Table 1. Results from Migration Monitoring August 16-31, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	0	2
American Redstart	11	2	0	0	2	15
Black-capped Chickadee	3	8	0	0	2	13
Blackpoll Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blue-headed Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Clay-colored Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Downy Woodpecker	0	1	0	0	0	1
Gray Catbird	1	0	0	0	0	1
House Wren	3	1	0	0	0	4
Least Flycatcher	34	7	0	0	2	43
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Magnolia Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
Mourning Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
Myrtle Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
Ovenbird	6	0	0	0	0	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	14	4	0	0	0	18
Traill's Flycatcher	3	0	0	0	0	3
Warbling Vireo	5	4	0	0	1	10
Yellow Warbler	10	1	0	0	1	12
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	111	28	0	0	8	147

Net Hours: 733.5 NH
Capture Rate: 20.04 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).

Table 2. Results from Migration Monitoring (Nets 50-57) August 16-31, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	3	0	0	0	0	3
American Redstart	11	1	0	0	0	12
Black-capped Chickadee	4	3	0	0	1	8
Black-throated Green Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Blackpoll Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
Canada Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	11	2	0	0	6	19
Common Yellowthroat	2	0	0	0	0	2
Least Flycatcher	35	3	0	0	9	47
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Magnolia Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Mourning Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ovenbird	5	0	0	0	0	5
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	5	1	0	0	1	7
Traill's Flycatcher	5	0	0	0	0	5
Warbling Vireo	6	2	0	0	0	8
Yellow Warbler	10	1	0	0	2	13
Total	115	13	0	0	19	147

Net Hours: 357.0 NH
Capture Rate: 41.18 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).