

Weekly Update May 14th to 20th 2017

What a week we've had at the BBO! It started off slow, with tons of rain and high winds, so the nets were closed for the first couple of days... but once they opened the bird numbers exploded!!! The peak of spring migration is finally here and in the last week we caught 415 birds!!! A lot of new species were banded this week including; Blackpoll Warbler, House Wren, Yellow Warbler, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, American Redstart, American Goldfinch, Warbling Vireo, Gray Catbird, and Common Yellowthroat. We also spotted the first Ruby-Throated Hummingbird of the season at the feeders and Cinnamon Teals out at the weir.



Staff were keeping busy once the nets were open and in one day, Sara and Meghan banded 124 birds! They were very thankful to have Brenda assisting them that day as otherwise they would not have been able to keep up with all the birds! It was a very exciting and tiring day for everyone involved.



Meghan found the first American Robin nest of the year this week. Four beautiful blue eggs were safely nestled in the nest and the female has been spotted sitting on her eggs throughout the week.

Sara took Shyla, one of the House Wren interns, on an adventure and together, they accessed the weir from the east side of Lister Lake since water levels continue to remain high. It was a long two hour hike in, through willow fens and old dirt roads but they finally made it to the other side and spent the afternoon cleaning out last year's House Wren nesting boxes.

Lots of visitors came out to the BBO this week which was great to see! Many families joined us for a morning of birding including; Matt Hanneman's family and Deanna's family. The Edmonton Nature Club came out as well on the weekend as did Helen, Jeremy, Meghan, Alyssa and Jen. Kyle Nuttall volunteered a lot of his time this week which was phenomenal of him. Thanks everyone who visited and we appreciate all the help we got from visitors and volunteers during this busy week of banding!



Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	2					2
American Redstart	1					1
American Robin	1		1			2
Black-capped Chickadee		3				3
Blackpoll Warbler	20	1				21
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	1				3
Chipping Sparrow	43	1			1	45
Clay-coloured Sparrow	173	14	1		1	189
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
Gray Catbird	1					1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	2					2
Hairy Woodpecker			1		1	2
House Wren	17		1			18
Least Flycatcher	17		2			19
Lincoln's Sparrow	7				1	8
Myrtle Warbler	24					24
Northern Waterthrush	2					2
Orange-Crowned Warbler	2					2
Palm Warbler	3					3
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3					3
Swainson's Thrush	9					9
Tennessee Warbler	13					13
Trail's Flycatcher	1					1
Warbling Vireo	1					1
Western Palm Warbler					1	1
White-throated Sparrow	16	3				19
Yellow Warbler	16	1	3			20
Total	377	24	9	0	5	415
Birds Caught	415					
Net Hours	286					
Capture Rate:	145.10					
Capture Rate was 145.10 birds/100 Net Hours.						