

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update May 15 – May 22, 2022



An after- second year male Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Look at the size of that beak!

weather did not allow for banding! Highlight captures were the first Baltimore Oriole of the season, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and a Western Palm Warbler.

Now that migration is well underway, the busy hosting groups of visitors for songbird banding in the morning! We held events on 4 days this past week and were fortunate to catch good numbers and diversity of birds each morning! If you are interested in joining us for banding and want to see beautiful spring-plumaged birds up close and personal, it isn't too late to get tickets for our songbird banding events! You can find information on ticket availability and reserve your ticket through our EventBrite portal [here](#).

Migration has picked up at the BBO this week with many of our summer resident species returning from their wintering grounds. Staff heard the first Warbling Vireos and Red-eyed Vireos of the season on census while local breeders like Yellow Warblers and Baltimore Orioles have started appearing in greater numbers. The Least Flycatchers have returned as well, and their constant chorus of 'cheBEKs' is dominating the BBO soundscape once more. The fun wasn't all limited to local breeders however, boreal forest breeders such as Northern Waterthrushes, Ovenbirds, and a Gray-cheeked Thrush were also sighted on census this week.

With so many birds being seen around the lab, it's no surprise that this week was a productive one for banding as well. Our standard migration monitoring nets combined with the new experimental nets caught a total of 206 birds this week, and that's with 2 days where



An after second year male Baltimore Oriole. These strikingly orange birds also eat oranges – how funny is that?

Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Least Flycatcher	18	2				20
American Robin	4					4
Chipping Sparrow	4					4
Clay-colored Sparrow	12	3				15
Lincoln's Sparrow	6					6
Baltimore Oriole	2		1			3
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
House Wren	3					3
Swainson's Thrush	16					16
Myrtle Warbler	12					12
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
White-throated Sparrow	9					9
Blackpoll Warbler	3					3
Black-and-white Warbler	1					1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1					1
Brown-headed Cowbird			1			1
Yellow Warbler	2	1				3
TOTALS	95	6	2	0	0	103

389 net-hours

26.5 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 1. Experimental Nets Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Yellow Warbler	10	1				11
Chipping Sparrow	3					3
Clay-colored Sparrow	55	6			3	64
Song Sparrow	1	2				3
Least Flycatcher	3		1		1	5
Orange-crowned Warbler	3					3
Lincoln's Sparrow	2					2
White-throated Sparrow	4					4

Swainson's Thrush	2					2
Blackpoll Warbler	1					1
Western Palm Warbler	1					1
Myrtle Warbler	4					4
TOTALS	89	9	1	0	4	103

130 net-hours

79.2 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).