

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update August 9 – 15, 2022

Migration has picked up big time at the Beaverhill Bird Observatory! More and more species from the boreal forest are beginning to pass through the natural area on the way to their southern breeding grounds. Staff caught the first Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers of the year while other migrants such as Ovenbirds and Northern Waterthrush continue to move through. With all the diversity we're seeing each morning, now is the perfect time to join us for a Songbird Banding Event! Spaces are still available and you can book your tickets on [our Eventbrite page!](#)

Besides our boreal migrants, staff have also observed large flocks of Tree Swallows foraging together over the lakebed and roosting in nearby shrubs. These birds are likely preparing for their southward journey to molting grounds in the Dakotas, and once they have completed their molts they will head down to their wintering grounds in Mexico and Central America!



This juvenile Cape May Warbler is one of many boreal migrant species caught this past week.



Another exciting piece of news is that the BBO's Motus tower is now operational! [Motus](#) is an automated wildlife tracking system that allows tagged birds to ping off any tower within a 15 km radius. We hope that this tower along with all the others will help us learn more about the movements of our feathered friends!

Black-and-white Warblers crawl up and down tree trunks in a manner similar to nuthatches!

Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Least Flycatcher	15				1	16
Black-capped Chickadee	1	11				12
Black-and-white Warbler	1					1
Cedar Waxwing	2					2
Warbling Vireo	5					5
Tennessee Warbler	2					2
Magnolia Warbler	1					1
Myrtle Warbler	3					3
Northern Waterthrush	4					4
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1					1
Gray Catbird	1					1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Ovenbird	2					2
Trail's Flycatcher	2					2
Downy Woodpecker	1					1
House Wren		1				1
TOTALS	42	12	0	0	1	55

552 net-hours

9.9 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 2. Experimental Nets Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Trail's Flycatcher	9					9
Least Flycatcher	61	5				66
Black-capped Chickadee	2	2				4
House Wren	3					3
Warbling Vireo	5	1				6
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	21					21
Yellow Warbler	84	5				89
Myrtle Warbler	15	4				19
Clay-colored Sparrow	15					15
Philadelphia Vireo	1					1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2					2
Common Yellowthroat	2					2
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1					1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird					1	1
Cape May Warbler	1					1
TOTALS	224	17	0	0	1	242

117.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

205.9 captures/100 net-hours

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).