

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update August 16th to 31st, 2012



A very happy Amélie with a pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches

The fall migration continues to bring new birds to bring lots of exciting bird species into the natural area. We are catching many of the species that we did not see in the spring (and would usually catch a fair number of) including American Redstarts, Wilson's Warblers and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers. We have also had some very exciting captures, including several new species for both myself and Amélie: a beautiful Chestnut-sided Warbler, Western Wood-peewee, Blue Headed Vireo and another Black-throated Green Warblers. However, Amélie was probably the most excited about finally getting her hands on the Red-breasted Nuthach, who has been eluding us for the past few weeks and is a personal favourite.

A couple a big storms have also meant a week of high daily captures, the most exciting day was on August 24 with 41 birds of 14 species in the nets. We have caught a total of 373 birds of 40 species during fall migration monitoring so far this year, as compared to 273 captures by this time in 2011.

The feeders have also attracted small flocks of Pine Siskins and Red Crossbills, which I have never seen in the natural area before. The young American Goldfinches provide much entertainment, as they still insist on being fed by dad even though they are perching on the feeder. A few other notable observations include a plains garter snake by net 12, an abundance of Mourning Cloak and Red Admiral Butterflies, as well as the first flock of Sandhill Cranes on the evening of the 30th.

The kitchen renovations were also completed these last two weeks, another huge thank you to Al DeGroot for installing the remainder of the new cabinets- they look fantastic!

The lab has also been busy with many visitors: Julia Jackson , Donna and Ted McKen, Glen Hvenegaard, Josh Nobleman and Caitlin Mader, Mitchell Warne , Chris Robinson, Thea Carpenter, Loreley Will, and Graham, Kevin and Tyler. Thanks to everyone for coming to share your enthusiasm and especially for helping keep the nets clear of leaves!



Red Admiral Butterflies don't mind hanging out with the bird people



A trio of warblers: Western Palm Warbler, Mourning Warbler and Northern Waterthrush

Table 1. Fall Migration Monitoring Captures, August 16th to 31st, 2012

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	0	2
American Redstart	10	0	0	1	0	11
Black-capped Chickadee	7	11	0	3	0	21
Blackpoll Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Blue-headed Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Cedar Waxwing	1	1	0	0	0	2
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-coloured Sparrow	5	1	0	0	0	6
Downy Woodpecker	2	0	0	0	0	2
Hairy Woodpecker	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush	1	0	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	49	5	0	2	0	56
Lincoln's Sparrow	3	0	0	0	0	3
Magnolia Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Mourning Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Flicker	1	0	0	1	0	2
Northern Waterthrush	2	0	0	0	0	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ovenbird	8	0	0	3	0	11
Philidelphia Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Pine Siskin	1	0	0	0	0	1
Red-breasted Grosbeak	1	0	0	0	0	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	0	0	0	0	7
Red-eyed Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Slate-coloured Junco	1	0	0	0	0	1
Song Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	7	1	0	0	0	8
Tennessee Warbler	21	1	0	0	0	22
Trail's Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown Sparrow	0	0	0	2	0	2
Warbling Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Western Palm Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Western Wood-peewee	1	0	0	0	0	1
White-throated Sparrow	3	2	0	2	0	7
Willow Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wilson's Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Yellow Warbler	8	3	0	0	0	11
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	167	26	0	14	0	207

Net Hours: 894 NH

Capture Rate: 23.15 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).