

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, July 9-19th, 2014

Round 4 of MAPS is complete! The weather is hot and the birds are plentiful, including our first hatchlings caught in mist nets this year! We have caught Least Flycatcher, Brown-headed Cowbird, Downy Woodpecker, and House Wren hatch year (HY) birds so far!!!

Am and myself went to Camrose for a morning to help Glen Hyvengard and Kevin Fraser deploy geolocators on Purple Martins. Then we joined Al in Redwater where we banded 4 nest boxes worth of American Kestrel chicks.

Our BLAB station had a great round of banding with a total of 19 captures, including American Goldfinch, House Wren, and (HY) Brown-headed Cowbirds. We managed 8 captures at PARK including a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and 2 (HY) Least Flycatchers. Another 8 birds were caught at WEIR including a (HY) Downy Woodpecker and plenty of Least Flycatchers. Tree Swallow box banding is coming to an end although we still banded some this round. We banded a lot more House Wren chicks in this period since they fledge later than Tree Swallows.



American Kestrel chick



House Wren chick

Am was bluff charged by a Male Grouse at PARK! The bird approached her, bumped her in the leg, and then ran off in a distraction display once it was clear that Am had not been harmed by the initial strategy.

The BBO staff received plenty of support this round and would like to thank the following individuals: Sara Pearce Meijerink and her friends from CWS (Canadian Wildlife Service) for putting on

an amazing BBQ for us and volunteering their time at the lab; Zac Macdonald for keeping Jerry Gordy company, doing a great job on his Breeding Bird Grid, and helping out with other work around the lab; Irene our field mom for paying us a visit and brightening our day with her smile; Emily, Rachel, Scott, Norma, and all other interns who came by to continue the great work they've been doing on their internships; Thea Carpenter for bringing us watermelon and Al Degroot for taking us Raptor banding! Thank you all so much, you guys make the BBO what it is.

Table 1. Results from MAPS round 4, July 9-19, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Robin	0	1	0	0	0	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	2	0	0	0	0	2
Downy Woodpecker	2	0	0	0	0	2
House Wren	3	0	0	0	0	3
Least Flycatcher	13	10	2	0	0	25
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	21	11	3	0	0	35

Net Hours: 180 NH

Capture Rate: 19.44 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).