

## Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update May 16<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The last two weeks of May have brought many birds. An influx of Chipping Sparrows started moving through the natural area on a damp, windy, May 18<sup>th</sup>. That turned out to be a sign of things to come as the next day yielded a remarkable, 110 birds! Chipping Sparrows and Clay-Colored Sparrows combined for a good portion of the total number of birds caught, but fourteen other species also found their way into the nets. Blackpoll and Tennessee Warbler, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet and Red Eyed Vireo, Downy Woodpeckers and a Swamp Sparrow were some of the more notable species banded.



Chipping Sparrow

The good times kept coming as the next couple of days caught 54, 75, and 64 birds respectively. A more predictable assortment of birds were caught during this time – namely Least Flycatchers, Yellow Warblers, Myrtle Warblers, and principally, Clay-Colored Sparrows. There were a few notable species as well. A Brown Creeper was banded on the 20<sup>th</sup>, a couple of Orange-Crowned Warblers and a couple of Savannah Sparrows were banded, a Baltimore Oriole was banded on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and at least one Tree Swallow was caught everyday during this period.



MLA Fenske out at the BBO!

After the four-day migration flurry things began to calm down a bit. MLA Fenske came out to the BBO on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and was given the BBO tour, but equally exciting was the banding of a Black and White Warbler. Both sightings were a first for many of the visitors to the BBO that day. It was a windy May 24<sup>th</sup> causing nets to be closed for the majority of the morning and few birds being banded as a result. But there was still work being done. Al

'burped' the long-time out of commission fridge in an attempt to get it to work again,

and under the supervision of Geoff we tried to erect a Purple Martin house near the old lake-shore... Only one of those tasks proved was successful and the fridge had to be taken back to town for repair.

May 25<sup>th</sup> was the day the BBO staff chose to do the Baille Birdathon. It was cold, wet and windy, but the team managed to rack up 111 species of bird, including the logo bird – the Willet. On the 27<sup>th</sup> we captured a Least Flycatcher that had originally been banded in Mexico. The final days of the month were cold, windy, and rainy. As a result few birds were banded. During this final period the staff caught up on data entry and lab clean-up.

An update wouldn't be complete without a mention of the volunteers. Dawn and Jay Rymer were permanent visitors during these two weeks and they were extremely helpful around the lab and great guests. Visitors were especially appreciated on the 110 bird day – Dawn and Jay Rymer, Steve Anderson, Rachel Keglowsch, and Megan Jacklin helped the banders deliver extracted birds back to the lab and keep straight which birds came from which net lanes.

#### Appendices:

Table 1. Results from Migration Monitoring May 16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
American Redstart	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Goldfinch	2	0	0	0	0	2
American Robin	2	2	2	0	3	9
Baltimore Oriole	1	0	0	0	1	2
Black & White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-capped Chickadee	0	4	2	0	3	9
Blackpoll Warbler	8	0	0	0	0	8
Brown Creeper	1	0	0	0	0	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	0	1	0	0	2
Chipping Sparrow	29	0	0	0	2	31
Clay-colored Sparrow	30	10	0	0	21	61
Downy Woodpecker	4	0	0	0	0	4
Gray Catbird	1	0	0	0	0	1
House Wren	10	0	0	0	1	11
Least Flycatcher	15	2	6	1	6	30
Lincoln's Sparrow	4	0	0	0	0	4
Myrtle Warbler	8	0	0	0	2	10
Orange-crowned Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-eyed Vireo	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	0	0	0	0	0	0
Savannah Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0

Slate-colored Junco	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	18	0	0	0	2	20
Swamp Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Tree Swallow	4	0	0	0	0	4
Warbling Vireo	0	0	0	0	0	0
White-crowned Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
White-throated Sparrow	3	0	0	0	0	3
Yellow Warbler	6	2	4	0	2	14
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>235</b>

*Net Hours: 873 NH*  
*Capture Rate: 27 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).

Table 2. Results from Migration Monitoring (Nets 50-57) May 16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Banded</b>	<b>Repeat<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Foreign<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Other<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
American Redstart	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Goldfinch	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Robin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baltimore Oriole	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black & White Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black-capped Chickadee	0	2	0	0	0	2
Blackpoll Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Brown Creeper	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	0	0	0	0	3
Chipping Sparrow	27	0	0	0	0	27
Clay-colored Sparrow	99	15	0	0	14	128
Downy Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gray Catbird	0	0	0	0	0	0
House Wren	6	0	0	0	0	6
Least Flycatcher	10	4	0	0	0	14
Lincoln's Sparrow	6	0	0	0	1	7
Myrtle Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	0	0	0	0	1
Savannah Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0	2
Slate-colored Junco	0	0	1	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	6	0	0	0	0	6

Swamp Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tennessee Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Tree Swallow	2	0	1	0	0	3
Warbling Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
White-crowned Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
White-throated Sparrow	11	0	0	0	2	13
Yellow Warbler	15	0	9	0	0	24
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>253</b>

*Net Hours: 353 NH*  
*Capture Rate: 71 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).