

## Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update May 31<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The end of migration has already come! We ended the 2014 spring migration with 832 birds! It has been an incredible spring! Highlights included a Brown Creeper, a Canada Warbler, a Mourning Warbler, the Tree Swallow with the geolocator and the foreign Least Flycatcher. Unbelievable how fast time goes by, it's unbelievable that we are already switching over to the MAPS program (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship).



Canada Warbler

Unfortunately the last few weeks have been dreadfully cool and rainy. It has resulted in quite a few weather days, but at least the staff has caught up on a lot of chores around the lab! Signs were put together for the visitor parking lot and the volunteer parking lot, trails were cleared, nets were patched, the nest box grids (House Wren, Mountain Bluebird, and Tree Swallow) were all set up, nets were patched, data was entered... Very productive couple of weeks!



Mika Daku holding a Yellow Warbler

The annual Big Birding Breakfast took place on June 7<sup>th</sup>. It was very well attended, with 61 people in attendance! It was a lovely morning, great weather, great crepes, and great people! We caught 35 birds, of 10 different species. Highlights included a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a Tree Swallow, a few Cedar Waxwings and a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher! Visitors went on a nature walk, a butterfly walk, walked the net lanes with the staff, checked out the Tree Swallow grid, and some of the nest boxes, and made crepes! Thanks to all those who helped with the Big Birding Breakfast, especially Claude Roberto who spent the morning in the kitchen making over 400 crepes for us all!

We caught a total of 246 birds over the last two weeks. Over half of the captures were from the new nets, 128 birds were caught in the new nets, and 118 in the old nets. We had some really neat captures over the last two weeks. We caught a Gray Catbird, five Baltimore Orioles, a Canada Warbler, two Cedar Waxwings, and two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds!

Over the last week we added two more to the BBO team. Malicia Besnard and Alexis LaForge, from Bordeaux, France, will be staying and volunteering at the lab for the next month. They're wonderful company, and a huge help!

As per usual, we have a number of people to thank! Thanks to Jim for covering a few days when Amélie and Kevin went into Edmonton, thanks to Geoff and Helen for all the time they've dedicated to helping the staff find the Tree Swallow geolocators that were deployed last year and thanks to everyone that supported the BBO by attending the Big Birding Breakfast. Thanks also to all the interns, volunteers and visitors we've had in the last couple weeks. Thanks to Allyn and Sean Esau, Norma-Jane Young, Victoria Giacobbo, Scott Claypool, Emily Cicon, Rachel Keglowsch, Megan Jacklin, Steve Anderson, Rainhart and Laura Vehring, Richard Turner, Gerry Lund, Irene Crosland, Shane Hoveland, Anna, Joel and Mika Daku, and Zac Macdonald.



**The Trail Clearing crew! From left to right: The Nikal team, Tyler, Chris, and Joel, as well as the BBO staff, Jerry and Kevin, and several volunteers and interns: Laura Vehring, Malicia Besnard, Alexis LaForge and Shane Hoveland.**

Special thanks to the gents from Nikal, Chris, Tyler and Joel, who helped us clear trails

on the 6<sup>th</sup>! We wouldn't have been able to do it without you, and we were so thankful to have the trails in such good shape before the Big Birding Breakfast! Thanks Nikal!

Table 1. Results from Migration Monitoring for the historic nets from May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Alder Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Goldfinch	5	0	0	0	0	5
American Robin	2	0	0	0	0	2
Baltimore Oriole	2	3	0	0	0	5
Black-capped Chickadee	0	0	0	0	1	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	1	1	0	2	5
Canada Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cedar Waxwing	2	0	0	0	0	2
Clay-colored Sparrow	8	4	0	0	0	12
Gray Catbird	1	0	0	0	0	1
House Wren	2	1	1	0	1	5
Least Flycatcher	26	18	5	0	7	56
Mourning Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Myrtle Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slate-colored Junco	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	3	0	0	0	0	3
Trail's Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tree Swallow	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warbling Vireo	1	1	2	0	0	4
Yellow Warbler	4	6	0	0	1	11
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>118</b>

*Net Hours: 510 NH*

*Capture Rate: 23 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) from May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Alder Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Goldfinch	4	1	0	0	0	5
American Robin	2	0	0	0	1	3
Baltimore Oriole	2	1	0	0	0	3
Black-capped Chickadee	0	1	0	0	1	2

Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Cedar Waxwing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clay-colored Sparrow	8	13	0	0	3	24
Gray Catbird	2	0	0	0	0	2
House Wren	5	0	0	0	0	5
Least Flycatcher	16	13	2	0	7	38
Mourning Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Myrtle Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	0	0	0	2	2
Slate-colored Junco	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swainson's Thrush	5	0	0	0	0	5
Trail's Flycatcher	3	0	0	0	0	3
Tree Swallow	1	0	2	0	0	3
Warbling Vireo	3	0	2	0	0	5
Yellow Warbler	3	16	0	0	5	24
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>128</b>

*Net Hours: 318 NH*  
*Capture Rate: 40 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).