

Weekly Update June 30th to July 8th 2017

Round three of MAPS is complete! We had another great week of MAPS with a total of 88 birds captured this round. Some highlight species include Baltimore Orioles, Swamp Sparrows, White-Throated Sparrows, Cedar Waxwings, and our second ever male Red-Winged Blackbird! Lots of baby birds are starting to show up now as well, including Downy Woodpeckers, Black-Capped Chickadees, and Yellow Warblers.

Lots of Tree Swallow chicks were also banded this week. The first clutches are almost done but soon enough, many Tree Swallows could start their second clutch of eggs so more chicks will be hatching from our swallow grids before we know it!

Tobias Tan and Scott Nelson came out to the BBO with a drone this week, along with Helen Trefry and Geoff Holroyd. They took two flights over the Beaverhill Lake and wow! There was still a lot of water out there! The drone was able to fly up to a kilometre away, starting from the weir, and the entire time, it could still see water surrounding it. So even though the lake bed looks like a grassland right now, it is a very flooded grassland.

Visitors this week spotted our badger once more, so we are very happy to hear that s/he is still in the natural area. Lots of new signs were also painted this week and will soon be up in the natural area.

The staff went as a group to Jurassic Forrest to watch Sara and Ricki give a talk about 'Owls Of Alberta.' It was a popular event with lots of families attending and everyone was excited to get a chance to meet Ricki, our educational juvenile Northern Saw-Whet Owl.



Swamp Sparrow



Tobias, Scott and Helen starting up the drone!

A big thank you this week to Mary-Anne for making us more bird bags and delivering them to the lab. We also had many visitors and volunteers come out and join us, so thank you to our interns: Serena, Hannah, Erin, Zach, Cassandra, Shyla, Maya, Myla-Rae and all their family members and friends that came out with them. As well thank you to Olivia, Steve and Irene for keeping us company, and helping with painting and bird banding. Lastly a huge thank you to Luke Zhou, who's never ending enthusiasm for bird banding and learning keeps us smiling!

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
American Goldfinch			1		1	2
American Robin	1	1				2
Black-capped Chickadee	1					1
Blackpoll Warbler			1			1
Cedar Waxwing	2					2
Clay-coloured Sparrow	3					3
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
Downy Woodpecker	4				1	5
House Wren	3	2			1	6
Least Flycatcher	11	7	7		1	26
Red-Winged Blackbird	2				1	3
Song Sparrow	7	1	1		1	10
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Swamp Sparrow		1				1
Trail's Flycatcher	1					1
Warbling Vireo	2		1			3
White-throated Sparrow		1	1			2
Yellow Warbler	10	4	2			16
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2				2
Total	49	19	14	0	6	88

Birds Caught 88
 Net Hours 180
 Capture Rate: 48.88888889

Capture Rate was 48.89 birds/100 Net Hours.