

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update

July 30th- August 10th, 2019

These past ten days have been jammed pack full of fun, adventures, young ornithologists (YO) and of course BIRDS! Highlight captures on migration have included a Blue-headed Vireo, a couple of Philadelphia Vireos, Tennessee Warblers, and a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. On MAPS, highlight captures included, a Marsh Wren, a Swamp Sparrow, two Northern Waterthrushes and a juvenile Sora!!

At the beginning of the week staff were busy with data entry, patching nets, bird bag laundry, re-installing a Northern Saw-whet Owl nest box that had fallen due to beaver activity, and completed a vegetation survey for MAPS at our SOPO station. Staff also have been actively trying to live trap some skunks that took up residence under the BBO lab, so we can relocate them to a new location, as we don't want anyone to be sprayed!

However, they finally decided to leave on their own, Yay! After the skunks left, staff dug a trench around the lab and installed new wire around the base of the building to try and prevent anymore wildlife from living under the building. Later in the week staff began preparing for hosting the young ornithologist workshop. We set up the event tents, mowed the clearing, swept and cleaned the lab among some other tasks. The young ornithologists arrived in the late afternoon on August 4th!

The workshop was held from August 4th to August 10th. It was a very full week with 9 YO's staying with staff in the woods. Throughout the week we had Butterfly Biologist David Laurie visit, Geoff Holroyd gave a Tree Swallow presentation and took the YO's out to the malaise trap and Geoff led the YO's through hummingbird banding. Helen and Phil Trefry hosted the YO's at their place one evening and gave a falconry tour where the YO's were able to



Juvenile Sora



meet many different birds of prey. Kim from WILDNorth also came that evening to explain wildlife rehab and released ducklings with the YO's. Further Dr. Gord Court, a Species at Risk Biologist, brought a Great Grey Owl and gave an Owls of AB presentation to all the

The Young Ornithologists with staff, Geoff, Helen and David Laurie

YO's. At the end of the

week staff with Geoff and Helen took the YO's on a big birding day throughout the local area and they were able to see a total of 112 bird species!!!! Needless to say it was an amazing week and a HUGE thank you goes out to Helen Trefry who organized the entire workshop including all the meals and activities! A big thank you to Geoff Holroyd who also brought out his water truck for the week and led many activities.

During the YO workshop we completed our final round of MAPS. Despite the rainy weather throughout the summer we still managed to capture 640 birds on MAPS which is our highest number of captures on MAPS yet! Migration monitoring has still been slow, but hopefully as we get closer to the end of the month, we will start catching more diversity including the lovely warblers.



Northern Waterthrush

Table 1: Summary of MAPS banding from July 30th- August 10th.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee	11	4	1		2	18
Cedar Waxwing	4					4
Clay-colored Sparrow	1					1
Common Yellowthroat	2					2
House Wren	4				1	5
Least Flycatcher	18	3	1		1	23
Marsh Wren	2				1	3
Northern Waterthrush	2					2
Song Sparrow	1					1
Sora	1					1
Swamp Sparrow	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	2					2
Trail's Flycatcher	4					4
Warbling Vireo	4				1	5
Yellow Warbler	5				2	7
Totals	63	7	2	0	8	80

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

Net Hours: 169.5hrs

Capture Rate: 47.19birds/100hrs

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: Summary of Fall Migration Monitoring from July 30th- August 10th.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	2					2
American Goldfinch	1		1			2
Black-capped Chickadee	8	8	1			17
Blue-headed Vireo		1				1
Brown-headed Cowbird					1	1
Downy Woodpecker			2			2
House Wren	4	3	3		2	12
Least Flycatcher	52	14	4		8	78
Myrtle Warbler	2					2
Northern Waterthrush	2					2
Philadelphia Warbler	3					3
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3					3
Red-winged Blackbird	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	3					3
Trail's Flycatcher	3					3
Warbling Vireo	5	1	1		1	8
Yellow Warbler	10					10
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			1			1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Totals	100	27	13	0	12	152

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

Net Hours: 820.5

2 Banded at the BBO >90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).

Capture Rate: 18.52 birds/100hrs

3 Banded at a location other than the BBO

4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).