

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update June 10-19, 2026



Veerys are an uncommon sight at the BBO, so we were Veery excited to catch another one!

With spring migration behind us, this week marked the official start of our MAPS programming! MAPS stands for “Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship” and is designed to monitor the success of local breeding species. BBO operates 3 MAPS stations at 3 locations in the natural area: one around the lab building (BLAB), one near Sora Pond (SOPO), and one along Lister Lake (LILA).

We started the round with BLAB, catching only 12 birds. All were Least Flycatchers, our most common local breeder in the aspen forest. SOPO was up next, which netted us an impressive 68 birds! Highlights were a Veery and an adorable pair of Swamp Sparrows, but overall diversity was high with 15 species caught in total. LILA was last on the list, where we caught 44 birds throughout the morning including our first Common Grackle of the year! Other common captures were Yellow Warblers, Northern House Wrens, and Red-winged Blackbirds.

Between banding days, staff have been hard at work catching up on other odd jobs. Spring data is being entered and submitted, the station maintained, the trails trimmed and mowed, and emails and reports written. After the breakneck pace of the spring season, it’s nice to have time to get caught up on everything else!

A special thank you to long-term volunteer Nadia Wilkins, who had been staying with us since May 31 and made her way back to Massachusetts this week. It was a pleasure hosting you Nadia!



This handsome Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was a lovely (and noisy) capture as well!

Table 1. BBO Lab (BLAB) MAPS Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Least Flycatcher	5	2	5			12
TOTALS	5	2	5	0	0	12

49.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

24.2 captures/100 net-hours

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. Sora Pond (SOPO) MAPS Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	1					1
Trail's Flycatcher	1					1
Least Flycatcher	11	2	5			18
Black-capped Chickadee	1		1			2
Northern House Wren	9	1	1			11
American Robin	1					1
Cedar Waxwing	1					1
Yellow Warbler	3		3		1	7
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
Song Sparrow			1			1
Red-winged Blackbird	14	1	1		3	19
American Goldfinch	1					1
Gray Catbird			1			1
Swamp Sparrow	2					2
Veery	1					1
TOTALS	47	4	13	0	4	68

53.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

127.1 captures/100 net-hours

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 3. Lister Lake (LILA) MAPS Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	1					1
Traill's Flycatcher	1					1
Least Flycatcher	5	1				6
House Wren	2					2
Eastern Warbling Vireo	1					1
Yellow Warbler	9	4	3			16
Clay-colored Sparrow	1					1
Song Sparrow	2	1				3
Red-winged Blackbird	5				1	6
Brown-headed Cowbird	1					1
American Goldfinch	1					1
Veery		1				1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1		1			2
Gray Catbird	1					1
Common Grackle	1					1
TOTALS	32	7	4		1	44

57.5 net-hours

76.5 captures/100 net-hours

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).