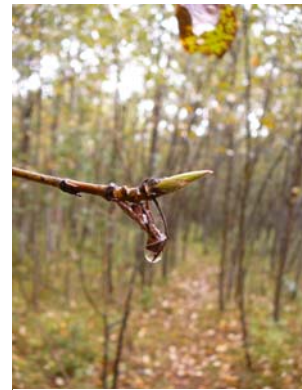


## BEAVERHILL BIRD OBSERVATORY UPDATE AUG 22-28, 2007

WE PREPARED TO SAY OUR GOODBYES as this was the final full week of our reign as banders here at the BBO. This is difficult to accept, especially since we've missed so many days of banding due to poor weather in August. It would be great to get some days in with captures of 100 or more birds, which is not unusual for the end of August. The days we do band, we catch fairly good numbers (25-35 captures) and quite a few species.

The Myrtle Warblers are increasing steadily as their migration through the area is on the upwards incline. We caught the first Red-breasted Nuthatches of the year; their calls are familiar throughout North American coniferous forests and they are one of Alberta's few winter residents. We also caught the first Wilson's Warbler and Black-throated Green Warbler of the year. A Gray Catbird and Yellow-shafted Flicker added some excitement as we have only banded one of each of these so far in 2007.



*A wet, rainy autumn*



*Red-breasted Nuthatch*

Even though we may only catch 30 birds in a day, usually these captures are not spread out; instead, they are clumped into a couple of net checks. Nothing beats approaching a net and seeing a flock of birds dripping from it. This is one of most exciting parts of the job (I think) and it has a bit of a Christmas flavor – a bunch of little surprises, you never know what species you're going to get!

The Piekema family (Treva with Devon and Jordan) spent a day with us to experience the bird observatory. We caught a few birds while they were here and their friend Tracey Stadnik with her kids, Evan and Chloe, also showed up. Unfortunately, at that point, the captures abruptly stopped but the nets filled with flocks of warblers right after they left (of course!). Such is the unpredictable nature of mist-net captures.

I (Anna) am back to school this fall and Allicia is off to the Northwest Territories for an internship, so the rest of Fall Migration Monitoring (until the beginning of October) is going to be run by a new staff member, Jonathan Martin-Demoor, and Lisa Priestley will take over the Northern Saw-whet Owl banding in October. Both Allicia and I feel very fortunate to have had such an envied position (as we've been informed by many a visitor). We've had a great summer at the BBO and truly will miss it! Some fond memories include: Great Horned Owl banding with Al, trying to avoid unsightly pant stains from inconsiderate baby Tree Swallows and madly chasing down their parents in the nest boxes, parasitic fly larva emerging from the forehead of a young House Wren (maybe that isn't such a fond memory), catching her first male Common Yellowthroat (says Allicia), adding new birds to our written or mental species lists, and generally enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and lifestyle that Beaverhill Lake Natural Area offers.



*Devon with a warbler*

- Anna and Allicia

Table 1: Results from Fall Migration Monitoring August 22-28, 2007.

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Alder Flycatcher	6	0	0	0	0	6
American Goldfinch	0	0	1	0	0	1
American Redstart	7	0	0	0	0	7
Black-and-White Warbler	0	0	0	0	1	1
Black-capped Chickadee	7	7	1	0	1	16
Blackpoll Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Canada Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Downy Woodpecker	1	1	0	0	0	2
Gray Catbird	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush	0	1	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	20	0	0	0	1	21
Magnolia Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Myrtle Warbler	30	0	0	0	0	30
Northern Waterthrush	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ovenbird	7	0	0	0	1	8
Philadelphia Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	0	0	0	0	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	0	0	0	0	2
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swainson's Thrush	5	0	0	0	0	5
Tennessee Warbler	11	1	0	0	0	12
Warbling Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Wilson's Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yellow Warbler	7	0	0	0	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>139</b>

Net Hours: 353 NH

Capture Rate: 39.38 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).



BBO 2007 staff: Alicia Kelly and Anna Daku