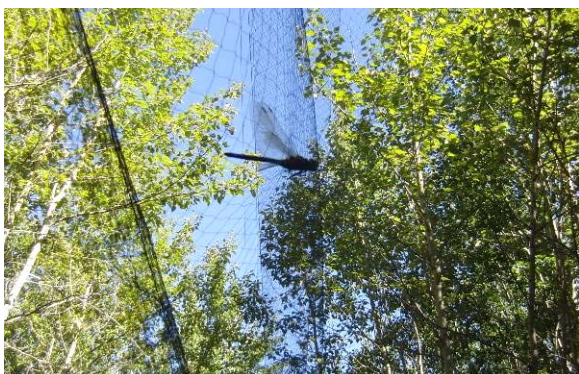


Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, July 21 - 31, 2011



Round 5 of MAPS, and just like that the summer is gone! We adjusted the rounds slightly so that we could band out of BLAB on the final day that the Golo crew was here. We were able to catch a whopping 18 Least Flycatchers for them that day, easily our busiest banding day in a while. We also got the Hairy Woodpecker to show them. We luckily inherited a ton of food from them as they picked through their things and decided what should go on the plane. We are well stocked now for the non-perishables, I think we could eat pasta for a month!

When we came back from days off on July 29th we were a little pinched for time, only 3 days of July left, and we had to finish banding at Park and Weir. Unfortunately a light rain greeted us on the 29th, so we had to do our point counts instead of banding, leaving only two days and we needed perfect weather for them! Luckily it worked out, and the 30th we headed out to Weir for our final visit. I did point counts while Meaghan did the banding, and it was kind of a cool morning for me. I spotted a family of Great-horned Owls near Point Count 1, three all together that were flying through openings in the trees. They stayed ahead of me but I watched them fly off and could hear their 'chucking' calls to each other. The banding was not as exciting, with only 3 birds caught, all Least Flycatchers. We spent more time extracting dragonflies than birds – they have come out in HUGE numbers the last little while.



Our final banding day at Park was on the 31st, and thank goodness we did have good weather again to finish up. Again, a really quiet day in the nets though, with only 4 birds. The young birds seemed to be on their own and older birds don't seem to be holding territories any longer. The mallard nest has finally hatched, but only 5 of the 11 eggs seem to have made it, 6 cold eggs remained with bits of shells from those that hatched. We pulled down all the nets at the end of the day and hauled them

back to the lab. In the afternoon, we cleared up the Migration Monitoring net lanes, especially 8/9/9X where the balsam poplars are coming up. With the nets set, we are ready for August 1st and for fall banding to start!

Table 1. Results from Spring Migration Monitoring, July 21 - July 31, 2011.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Hairy Woodpecker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	20	2	0	0	1	23
Warbling Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total	23	2	0	0	1	26

Net Hours: 180 NH

Capture Rate: 14.44 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).



Meaghan weighing a Least Flycatcher down at PARK.