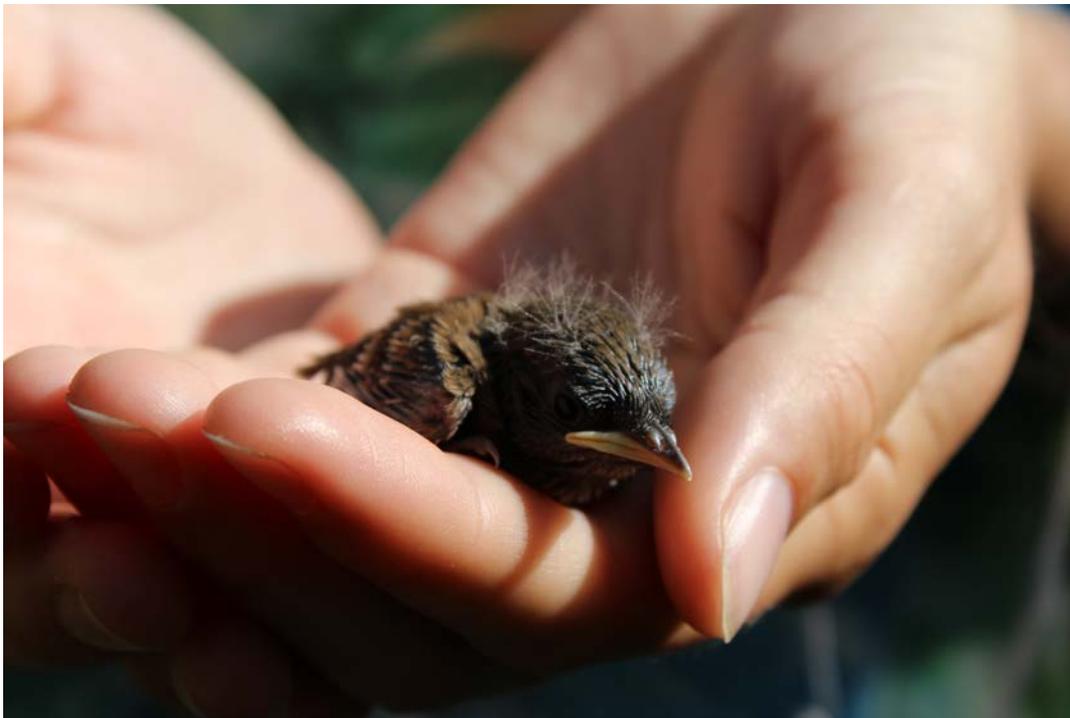


## Beaverhill Weekly Update July 11<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

MAPS is slowing down with few numbers of birds caught, but we are starting to see our first hatch year birds in the nets. Right now these birds look gorgeous with their newly grown feathers, but these early low quality feathers will wear quickly and next spring will look much more worn than the older birds. It is amazing to think these birds took two weeks to become full sized adults and it is encouraging to watch them learn to fly and find food on their own. We hope to see them in the nets this fall, and good luck on migration!

In addition, our Tree Swallow and House Wren chick banding is finally complete. A grand total of 125 House Wrens and 750 Tree Swallow chicks were banded this summer! This number is quite high in part due to the addition of 50 nest boxes to our existing Tree Swallow grids and 25 to a new House Wren grid. During Tree Swallow banding, we recovered some geolocators that were attached to adult Tree Swallows that nested here in previous years. By measuring light levels and keeping track of the date, these devices can determine the latitude that the bird is at throughout the year that it carries the geocator. From these devices, we learn where Tree Swallows nesting at BBO travel during winter, and found that they go all over the southern USA. Our Tree Swallows have already left for central USA where they will live until migrating further south for the winter.



One of the very last House Wren chicks banded this year.

Fun species this week included a Downy Woodpecker, the first of this year, and some Black-capped Chickadees. We also caught a Ruby-throated Hummingbird, which we are not permitted to band, and therefore released. As MAPS is slowing down for the end of summer, it was great to see a few different species than our regular, the Least Flycatcher.

This week we were joined by a new regular volunteer, Robin! Robin has come out rain or shine, and has helped us with vegetation measurements, bird banding, data entry, net takedown and more. We appreciate this dedication in our volunteers; we couldn't get much done without you.

Last but not least, we appreciate all our visitors and volunteers who came out this week. Thanks to Robin Moore and family, and Nikki Pascar for coming out this week!

	Banded	Repeats	Returns	Other	Total
Downy Woodpecker	1				1
Least Flycatcher	22	11	4		37
House Wren		2			2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				1	1
Black-capped Chickadee	1	1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>

Net hours = 42

Capture rate: = 98 birds/100 net hours