

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, May 8- May 14, 2018

The second week at the BBO has been awesome! The lab had numerous visitors again this week which was a real treat.

Despite a couple of days of low net hours due to windy and rainy weather, it has been great to watch all the species slowly migrate back. Hopefully, in the coming weeks, we will have



Jeremy with the Tree Swallow

more busy banding days. This week we have added a few more species to our list including a Clay-colored Sparrow, a Least Flycatcher, a Chipping Sparrow, and a Tree Swallow. A few highlights from banding this week included catching a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and a Gray-cheeked Thrush. Irene was out visiting the day the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was caught so she had the pleasure of banding the new species.

A huge thanks to Al Degroot who came out this past week to hook up the solar panels and for taking myself (Emily), Kevin and Amelie out to look for raptor nests. On our adventures, we cleaned out an American Kestrel nest box, saw

two Northern Harriers, two American Kestrels, and a Meadowlark. Even though we did not band any raptors, it was great to drive around the area to enjoy some great birds.



Tree Swallows

While on net check this past week, the staff and a couple of visitors found a duck egg that was dropped by a Common Raven right near net 51. We picked up the egg and moved it to the clearing past net 50 and within two net checks, the raven had come back to claim the duck egg!

Other exciting wildlife sightings around the BBO include; a Least Weasel who has made a home underneath the BBO lab and the Saw-whet owl, who still continues to hoot every night!



Marbled Godwit at Kallal Meadow

Visitors also saw a skunk along Rowan’s Route. There have been Yellow Rails calling at night as well as coyotes. There is no shortage of critters at the BBO!

This past week we had some amazing volunteers Ellen, Melanie, and Emma who painted a couple of new signs for the BBO and assisted with banding. We also had Blair, Justin, Jeremiah, Delaney, and Stacey out visiting helping with banding and enjoying the birds. Further, we had two House Wren interns out cleaning the nest boxes and assisting with banding later in the afternoon. The butterfly intern (Shyla) and Steve were also out this past week completing surveys. Definitely has been an exciting week out at the BBO!

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Black-capped Chickadee		2	1			3
Brown-headed Cowbird	1					1
Chipping Sparrow	8					8
Clay-colored Sparrow	6					6
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1					1
Hermit Thrush	1					1
House Wren	1					1
Least Flycatcher	6					6
Lincoln Sparrow	6					6
Myrtle Warbler	12					12
Orange-crowned Warbler	5				1	6
Savannah Sparrow	3					3
Song Sparrow	3	1				4
Swainson's Thrush	2				1	3
Tree Swallow			1			1
White-crowned Sparrow	1					1
White-throated Sparrow	2					2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
	59	3	2	0	2	66

Net Hours: 389
 Capture Rate: 16.96/100 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).

