

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update

June 30th – July 9th, 2019

Once again, due to the daily rainstorms and high winds throughout the province, staff struggled to complete MAPS banding on time. However, with a pinch of fortune, good timing, and help from our volunteers we were able to fit in all the banding!

Highlight from MAPS this week includes catching a ruby-throated hummingbird at our BLAB station, and banding a Tennessee warbler, and a black-throated blue warbler at our SOPO station! The black-throated blue warbler was especially exciting for BBO staff since it was only the third one banded in BBO's history and was last banded nine years ago! Being an eastern species, their range doesn't normally extend farther west than Ontario, or further north than the Great Lakes. Resulting in a rare find indeed!



A female Black-throated Blue Warbler

When staff were not banding at MAPS, we were busy banding tree swallow chicks, mending nets, fixing MAPS bird bag crosses, repairing bird feeders, and conducting nest searches throughout the natural area, including the other side of the weir. Few nests were found this week; however, staff were delighted to find a tiny ruby-throated hummingbird nest almost 30 ft. up in a tree! Staff also visited previously found nests to determine nest success, including those belonging to blue-winged teals, American robins, yellow warblers, and least flycatchers. With the ample wet and rainy weather, staff were able to catch up on many office tasks, including; R-code analysis, data entry, education program development, report writing, and climate change blogging.



A Ruby-throated hummingbird nest.

This week while travelling to and from the lab, staff spotted a white-faced ibis at Llama pond in Tofield, the first spotted this year! Staff are hoping to see more throughout the summer months.

The BBO staff is thankful for continuous support from all our board members, volunteers, visitors and interns including; Man Yong, Lovely sweet documentary extraordinaire Megan Westervelt, Jana Teefy, Ryan Thunberg and Geoff Holroyd. Your time and effort helps to keep the BBO up and running and we sincerely thank you!

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	2					2
American Robin	3	5			1	9
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1					1
Blk-capped Chickadee	7					7
Clay-Coloured Sparrow	1					1
Downy Woodpecker	1					1
Hairy Woodpecker	1					1
House Wren	2					2
Least Flycatcher	16	11	1		4	32
Red-winged Blackbird	4				4	8
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3					3
Ruby-throated hummingbird					1	1
Savannah Sparrow	1	1				2
Song Sparrow	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	1					1
Unid. Trail's Flycatcher	6	2	1			9
Warbling Vireo	1	1				2
Yellow Warbler	12	4				16
Total	63	24	2	0	10	99

Net Hours: 160	
Capture Rate: 61.88/100 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).