

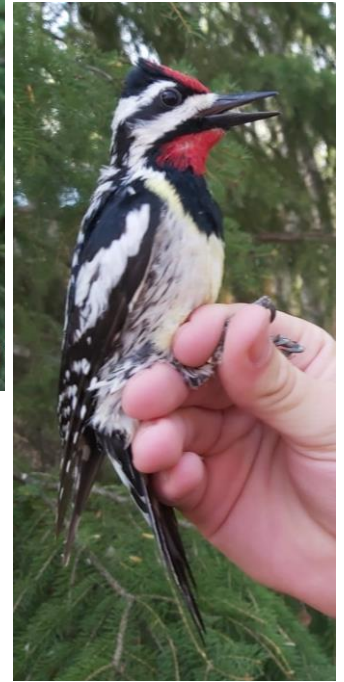
Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Updates May 15-21, 2023

Heading into the middle, and promising peak of the spring migration season! As our capture rates increase, we are kept ever busy around the station with site maintenance, net and equipment repair, and welcoming human visitors along in banding some of the wonderful birds! We have begun to see more volunteers come out and refresh themselves with bird song and handling. We have also seen 50 visitors as either public visitors ticket holders, or even as a part of a small team of researchers with the University of Alberta that have come out for their weekly field work, looking at feather mites in our bird populations!



Female (bottom) and male (right) Yellow-Bellies, both happy little Sapsuckers, a little scruffy from exploring and shaping cavities we hope!



A little hummer was found in one of our nets this week! A very welcome surprise!

BBO has also been greeted by more species humoring us this week with their stop-in amid chasing the summer sun in pursuit of more northern/boreal nesting habitat including but not limited to an Orange-Crown Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Blue-Headed Vireo and a Ruby-Throated Hummingbird in the net as well as a Palm Warbler caught on our census survey.

Least flycatcher! Our forest has become a buzz of these cuties calls all morning as they settle in finding their clusters, mates and nest spots.



Others once again gracing us with their approval of the BBO as breeding grounds include but are not limited to Clay-Coloured Sparrows, Common Yellowthroats, Ovenbirds, Least Flycatchers, and House Wrens found in our net captures, as well as Purple Martins found daily on census.

With our new road sign installed before our turnoff, we hope to welcome more visitors, both birds and humans! Who will be our next arrival...?

A handsome Blue-Headed Vireo was an exciting addition this week!



Table 1. Migration Monitoring for Standard Nets

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	TOTAL
Swainson's Thrush	5				1	6
Least Flycatcher	13	1	1			15
American Robin	1	1				2
Baltimore Oriole	2	6	2			10
Black-Capped Chickadee		1				1
House Wren	4					4
White-Throated Sparrow	3		1			4
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker		1	2			3
Common Yellow Throat	1					1
Yellow Warbler	1	1				2
Myrtle Warbler	1					1
Ovenbird	1					1
Chipping Sparrow	1	1				2
Brown-Headed Cowbird	1					1
TOTAL	34	12	6	0	1	53

399.5 net hours

13.3 captures / 100 net 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).

Table 2. Migration Monitoring in Non-Standard Nets

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	TOTAL
Least Flycatcher	9				1	10
Baltimore Oriole					1	1
Black-Capped Chickadee		2	2			4
House Wren	3					3
White-Throated Sparrow	1					1
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker		1				1
Yellow Warbler	10	1			1	12
Myrtle Warbler	3					3
Chipping Sparrow	15					15
Tennessee Warbler	1					1
Ruby-Throated Hummingbird					1	1
Clay-Coloured Sparrow	56	9	2			67
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
Lincoln's Sparrow	1					1
Tree Swallow	5	1	2			8
Blue-Headed Vireo	1					1
Orange-Crown Warbler	1					1
Grey Catbird	1					1
TOTAL	108	14	6	0	4	132

117 net hours

112.8 captures / 100 net 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).