

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update: May 21-30

And the birds continue to trickle through. At least they are steady in the nets now, we've banded 176 since the beginning of the season, 82 in the last 10 days (Table 1). New species captured include American Redstart, Tennessee Warbler, Brown-headed Cowbird, White-crowned Sparrow, Warbling Vireo, and we had an amazing 4 species of thrush day: Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, and Veery. We also caught our first Sharp-shinned Hawk of the year, VERY exciting.

Table 1. Results from mist netting May 21-30, 2005.

Species	Banded	Recapture	TOTAL
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	1
Least Flycatcher	10	4	14
Black-capped Chickadee	0	3	3
Warbling Vireo	1	0	1
House Wren	2	0	2
Swainson's Thrush	12	0	12
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	0	1
Veery	1	0	1
American Robin	2	1	3
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	1	0	1
Yellow Warbler	7	13	20
Myrtle Warbler	7	0	7
Ovenbird	2	0	2
American Redstart	1	0	1
White-throated Sparrow	2	0	2
White-crowned Sparrow	1	0	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	4	3	7
Brown-headed Cowbird	1*	1	2
TOTAL	57	25	82

* unbanded, processed but forgot to band

Tree Swallow trapping continued, we were able to catch 9 more females on the nests. We love using the throw a feather in the air and wait till she brings it into the nest trick. We plan to work more on this, this coming week so if you think your speedy come on out and help us!! We have also been honing our skills as artists, and getting some new signs painted for the Natural Area. This should help people find their way around the trails a little better.



Interesting species to note in the past 10 days include: an American Bittern and Soras continue to call at Lister Lake, the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds just arrived back to our feeder, and Red-eyed Vireos are calling "look up, way up, tree top, see me, here I am". Exciting times at the bird observatory, come on out for a visit, we love the company. And, we are happy to show off our new solar system, installed by Al DeGroot and his son-in-law Peter, thanks to TD Friends of the Environment for this great new addition.



Lisa Priestley and Sara Majeski
Beaverhill Bird Observatory