

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update July 20-29, 2010



Lisa with one of the four Northern Harrier chicks from the nest on Lister Lake

This round of MAPS completed the program for the summer of 2010. How the time has flown by!

Banding at the BLAB station was fairly busy with 28 birds caught, though all but 2 were Least Flycatchers. We are looking forwards to Migration Monitoring starting up again and to the different species that will start moving through.

Not a lot of activity for our last morning out at PARK. Sixteen birds in the nets, though it was fun to see the Warbling Vireo amongst the flycatchers.

The Golondrinas crew from the Saskatoon station dropped by to visit the BBO, and accompanied us for our day of banding out at WEIR. Unfortunately, we weren't able to catch much for them; there was very little activity and very little singing. It was nice to see a Clay-coloured Sparrow amongst the handful of Least Flycatchers, but our last day of MAPS banding was otherwise a quiet one.

We also finished off some of our last nest boxes this week, though we were a bit surprised to find 2 House Wrens on eggs. We banded our last four Tree Swallows, Mountain Bluebird and House Wren chicks. Banding the American Robin nest by Long Eared Owl Lane proved to be exciting. A very protective female made it clear that we were unwelcome in her nest, but the two chicks were successfully banded nonetheless.

Lisa also came out to the lab on July 20 to join Katie and I in banding the Northern Harrier nest. We were thrilled to have a ground nest on the lakebed succeed, and it was great to see another set of raptor chicks. After hiking through the cattails we banded four chicks, and got some great shots of momma, who was circling and watching us through our visit.



The Golondrinas crew from Saskatchewan: Sara, Kim, Nora and Patrick

Table 1. Results from Songbird Banding, July 20-29, 2010.

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-coloured Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
House Wren	0	1	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	28	9	4	0	5	46
Warbling Vireo	0	0	1	0	0	1
Yellow Warbler	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	30	10	6	0	5	51

Net Hours: 180.00 NH

Capture Rate: 28.3 birds/100 NH

- 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).



The cooperative Marbled Godwit that has been hanging around the natural area all summer