

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update May 9th – 15th , 2015

Another interesting week at the BBO. Although catch rates aren't soaring yet, diversity is still quite impressive. As of the 15th we've banded a grand total of **24** species including interesting finds like the Northern Waterthrush, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, the Blackpoll Warbler, and the Grey-cheeked Thrush - just to name a few! We're also just shy of the 150th bird caught, with our 100th bird being the very cool Western Palm Warbler. We were also very excited about two Tree Swallow recaptures, which were banded in 2010 and 2012 – making at least one of them five

years old!

Low catch rates mean more time for cleaning, organizing, and working on other projects. Steven (our favorite intern) has been working very hard on establishing a breeding bird grid – a project that will allow future interns to survey birds on site and determine information such as bird territory size. The House Wren grid was also inventoried to get it prepared for the season and the interns. Jonathan replaced our previous weighing tubes (fashioned from old TP rolls) with much more high tech plastic pipe (which allows for easier clean-up to prevent the spread of disease between birds). The down time between mist net checks has also allowed us to do some birding around the lab . In the last few days we've seen some neat species

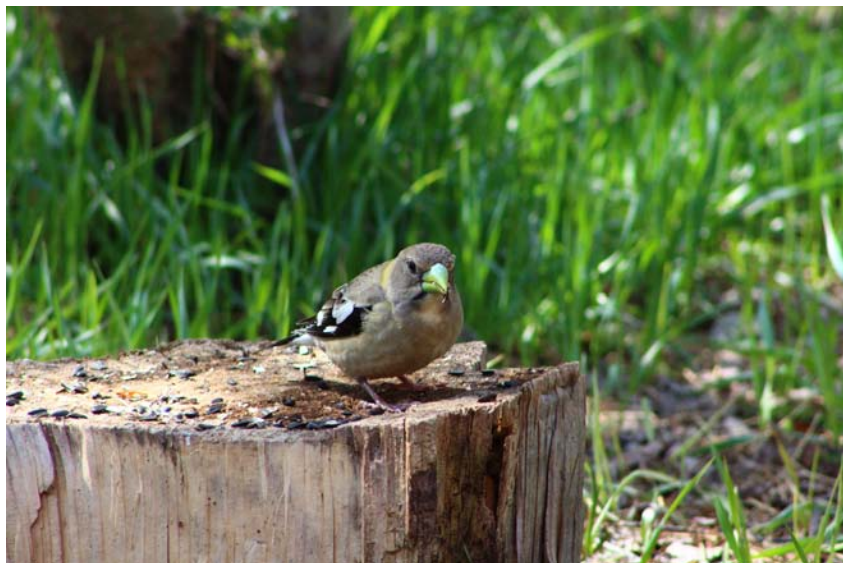


Intern Steven extracting an energetic Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

including a female Evening Grosbeak, male and female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and a male Baltimore Oriole. A male Evening

Grosbeak was spotted earlier this season and we're all hoping he returns to join the female!

Assistant Emily snapped a photo of this very photogenic Evening Grosbeak.



Thanks to Irene Crosland, Steve Anderson, Rachel Keglowsch, Victoria Hansen, and Dave Collyer for dropping by (and bringing us treats!). Board members Geoff Holroyd, Helen Trefry, Lisa Priestley, Jason Duxbury, and Jim Beck also stopped by for a meeting and a visit, which was also a lovely addition to our day.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Robin	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee		2				2
Blackpoll Warbler	1					1
Chipping Sparrow	5					5
Clay-colored Sparrow	21	1				22
Grey-cheeked Thrush	1					1
Hermit Thrush	1					1
House Wren	3					3
Least Flycatcher	7		1			8
Lincoln's Sparrow	6	2				8
Myrtle Warbler	3					3
Northern Waterthrush	1					1
Orange-crowned Warbler	3					3
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
Swainson's Thrush	5					5
Tree Swallow	1		2			3
Western Palm Warbler	1					1
White-crowned Sparrow	1					1
White-throated Sparrow	11				1	12
Yellow Warbler	3					3
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Total	77	5	3	0	1	86

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).

Net Hours: = 162 NH

Capture Rate: = 53 birds/ 100 NH