

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly update: May 15th to May 21st

Spring migration is in full swing at the BBO! This week saw many familiar species in high numbers, such as Clay-colored Sparrows and Yellow Warblers. Swainson's Thrushes have continued their high volume, with a total of 41 new bands.

Gray-cheeked Thrushes have been surprisingly frequent visitors as well, with five being banded this week.



Swainson's Thrush (left) and Gray-cheeked Thrush (right)

There were also plenty of warblers passing through in beautiful spring plumage, with Black-and-white, Black-throated Green, Blackpoll, Magnolia, Myrtle, Tennessee, Orange-crowned, and Western Palm Warblers being banded. Despite some rainy days causing low net hours, many days were extremely productive, with a high of 117 birds on May 21st.

We completed our Big Birding Day on May 20th, reporting a grand total of 133 species throughout the day. Despite the rain halting our banding for the day, we were productive in other ways, finding species throughout the county, in Tofield, and in Elk Island. Big Birding Day was the perfect way to round out our totals, with 177 banded birds throughout the week, including 24 species captured.



Staff and volunteers on Big Birding Day

Banding totals (Standard nets):

<i>Species Name (Autofills)</i>	<i># of Captures</i>				
	Banded	Repeat	Return	Unbanded	Grand Total
Alder Flycatcher	1				1
American Redstart	3				3
Black-and-white Warbler	3				3
Black-throated Green Warbler	1				1
Blackpoll Warbler	8				8
Brown-headed Cowbird	4		1	1	6
Chipping Sparrow	6			1	7
Clay-colored Sparrow	4				4
Downy Woodpecker			1		1
Eastern Kingbird	1				1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5				5
House Wren	1			1	2
Least Flycatcher	8		3	3	15
Lincoln's Sparrow	2				2
Magnolia Warbler	1				1
Myrtle Warbler	13				13
Northern Waterthrush	1				1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1			1	2
Swainson's Thrush	40		1		41
Tennessee Warbler	9			1	10
Western Palm Warbler	1				1
White-throated Sparrow	3		1	1	5
Yellow Warbler	6		1	2	9
Grand Total	122		8	7	142

269 net-hours

52 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO

2 - banded over 90 days ago, at the BBO

3 - banded at a location other than the BBO

4 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

Banding totals (Experimental nets):

<i>Species Name (Autofills)</i>	<i># of Captures</i>				<i>Grand Total</i>	
	<i>Banded</i>	<i>Repeat</i>	<i>Return</i>	<i>Unbanded</i>		
American Redstart	1				1	
Blackpoll Warbler	1				1	
Chipping Sparrow	3				3	
Clay-colored Sparrow	21		6	1	3	31
Least Flycatcher	2				2	
Magnolia Warbler	1				1	
Myrtle Warbler	1				1	
Northern Waterthrush	1				1	
Orange-crowned Warbler	2				2	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2				2	
Swainson's Thrush	1				1	
Tennessee Warbler	1				1	
White-throated Sparrow	2				2	
Yellow Warbler	16			1	1	18
	55		6	2	4	67

36 net-hours

186 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO

2 - banded over 90 days ago, at the BBO

3 - banded at a location other than the BBO

4 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)