

# Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update – May 1-7, 2026

The first week of Songbird Migration Monitoring was a blast at the BBO! The captures were low, but the diversity was high. Only 18 birds flew into our nets, but they were composed of 12 different species! The first bird of the season was a Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow, one of four sparrow species caught this week. The warblers are yet to arrive in droves, but a few spring Yellow-rumped Warblers (Myrtle, and Myrtle x Audubon hybrid subspecies).



*Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow*

The nets were winded out on some days and opened late due to cold mornings. Nets were open for 358.50 hours in total, capturing 18 birds, for a capture rate of 5.02 birds per 100 net hours. The real banding highlight came from non-standard banding, in the feeder net. The feeder net caught 39 birds, providing some educational interpretation for the filming of Wonder Collective, and a group of high school students from Edmonton.

A pair of especially cool birds came from the feeder net—two Fox Sparrows! The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> banded in BBO history.

Staff took on some site maintenance following the high winds, lifted the Purple Martin houses, and fixed Tree Swallow Boxes. It's shaping up to be a great spring season!



## DAILY TOTALS

<i>Captures</i>	<i>Repeat / Return / Foreign?</i>		
<i>Species Name (Autofills)</i>	<i>Banded</i>	<i>Return</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>
American Robin	3	1	4
American Tree Sparrow	1		1
Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow	1		1
Hermit Thrush	1		1
Myrtle Warbler	2		2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1		1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1		1
Slate-colored Junco	2		2
Song Sparrow	1		1
Swainson's Thrush	1		1
Unspecified Yellow-rumped Warbler	2		2
White-throated Sparrow	1		1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>

358.50 net hours

5.02 captures per 100 net hours