

# Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update - May 29 - June 4

This week at BBO went a little differently than planned. The greatly anticipated Big Birding Breakfast started off with a bang on May 30<sup>th</sup>, welcoming 47 visitors to the site for banding interpretation, a crepe breakfast, facepainting, Tree Swallow feather toss, and more! Unfortunately, heavy rains and winds gusting up to 70km per hour thwarted the second day of the event.



Staff with their Big Birding Breakfast face paint

Banding was also put to a halt during the rain. Staff and volunteers worked on office work, some net lane maintenance, and land stewardship activities. Despite the limited banding, there were 106 birds captured of 18 different species. Least Flycatchers have emerged as the most common capture as we move into the summer season, accounting for nearly one third of all captures this week.



Young male Bay-breasted Warbler

A few interesting migrants made their way through, including a Bay-breasted Warbler and an Ovenbird, although most of our captures were local breeders.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, we hosted the grade 12 Biology 30 class from Tofield High School. The six students got to participate in releasing banded birds, a walk through the trail systems in the natural area, and a feather toss for the Tree Swallows.

## Songbird Banding Totals:

<i>Species Name</i>	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Unbanded <sup>3</sup>	Grand Total
American Goldfinch	5		1		6
American Robin	1	2	1		4
Baltimore Oriole	2	9	1		12
Bay-breasted Warbler	1				1
Brown-headed Cowbird		2			2
Clay-colored Sparrow	6	2	1		9
Eastern Warbling-Vireo	1	1	1		3
Gray Catbird	2		1		3
Hairy Woodpecker				1	1
Least Flycatcher	15	16	1		32
Northern House Wren	5	2			7
Ovenbird	2				2
Red-eyed Vireo	1				1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				1	1
Swainson's Thrush	3				3
Traill's Flycatcher	2				2
Unidentified Warbling Vireo	1				1
Yellow Warbler	5	5	6		16
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>106</b>

332.5 net-hours  
at the BBO

31.88 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago,

2 - banded over 90 days  
ago, at the BBO

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