

2014 Banding Report

*** rough notes ***

This year we banded an average number of individuals: 249 individuals of 38 species in spring and 324 individuals of 40 species in fall. We had no foreign captures (capturing a bird that had been banded somewhere else), nor have any of our birds been reported from elsewhere this season.

We did capture and release a Calliope Hummingbird for the first time. We are not licensed to band hummingbirds, so we get them out of the net and on their way.

We had a high number of Western Wood-Pewees this spring, the first time we were in the double digits since spring of 2005. We catch few of these in fall with none this year.

We had a similar experience with Blue-gray Gnatcatchers banding 18 individuals compared to a prior high count of 8. Since 1991 we have banded 85 individuals. This is another bird we tend to catch in spring more than fall even though we are open longer in fall.

Lazuli Buntings were well represented in spring with 15 banded, the most since spring 2008.

Wilson's Warblers were plentiful in fall (108 banded). 2007 was the last time we banded more than 100 individuals, with that being the norm at the time. Since 2007 we've been banding 40 to 60 birds.

I particularly enjoyed catching our third Western Scrub-Jay, the last one being in fall of 2003. The same day we caught a Nashville Warbler, the ninth since 1991. Three White-throated Sparrows got bands last fall, not a bird we see every year.