

Spring 2024 ACNP Banding Report

Prepared by Megan Jones Patterson
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The Allegra Collister Banding Station operated from 29 April to 31 May 2024. The station operated for 5-hours per morning for 12 mornings on a schedule of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (some days had some/all nets opened/closed early). This totaled 811.94 net hours. We had 6 days impacted by a powerline project on the site (closed 4 days, reduced banding 2 days), 4 days impacted by high winds (2 days closed, 2 days early end to day), and 1 day starting late due to cold temperatures. While lower than the 2023 net hours, this is more than in most spring seasons since 2003 (the earliest year in the annual summary data I have available. This applies to all comparisons to past seasons in this report).

This season we captured and processed 189 birds, of these 158 were newly banded birds from 39 species. We also processed 9 were return individuals captured in previous seasons and 13 repeats from earlier in this same season. There were also 8 individuals captured but not banded. These were Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, Black-chinned Hummingbirds, and one Yellow Warbler. The total birds newly banded each day ranged from 3 (first day of the season, some nets closed early due to wind) to 27 birds with a mean of 13 birds. Our capture rate of newly banded birds per net-hour is the lowest any spring banding (0.19 captures/net hour; past range: 0.21-0.97 captures/net). However, past practices at this station were to close the nets when the banding was slow. Therefore, comparison of capture rate across seasons may not be reliable.

This spring, we closely matched the open and closing schedule of the other Bird Conservancy of the Rockies banding sites with the exception that we started on Monday and finished on Friday, instead of on specific dates.

Volunteers & Visitors

In Spring 2024, we had seven ACNP volunteers (all are also BCR volunteers): Maggie Boswell (MB, co-lead bander), Megan Jones Patterson (MJ, co-lead bander), Renée Haip (RH), John Malenich (JM), Matthew Fyfe (MF), Michael Patterson (MP), and Courtney Rella (CR). Colin Woolley (CW) from BCR also visited the station on 17 May. In addition, we had Mia Hock (MH) visit the station on 8 days to observe banding and help record data. We also have a former volunteer, Joel Such (JS) visit on one day. We also had observers Liseth Tapasco, David Such, and Jessica Miller visit the station.

Summary of Capture Data

A few notable items from the captures this year in comparison to past fall seasons.

- The first capture of a Gray-checked Thrush (since 1991 when summary records start).
- One Tennessee Warbler. There have only been 9 others captured since 1991 and 7 of these were 1991-2000.
- Two Sharp-shinned Hawks. It was nice to be able to compare the size difference between the male and female that we caught. We now carry larger band sizes and were able to band both individuals.

- One Cooper's Hawk. This was only the third individual banded since 1991, one additional individual was captured in 2014 but not banded.
- One Bustrit, the only one captured in the last decade.
- Two Rock Wrens, only 7 others captured since 1991.

Photos

Joel Such and Maggie Boswell looking at the Gray-checked Thrush captured on May 20, 2024. Photo by Renée Haip.



(Below) Gray-checked Thrush captured on May 20, 2024. Photo by Renée Haip.

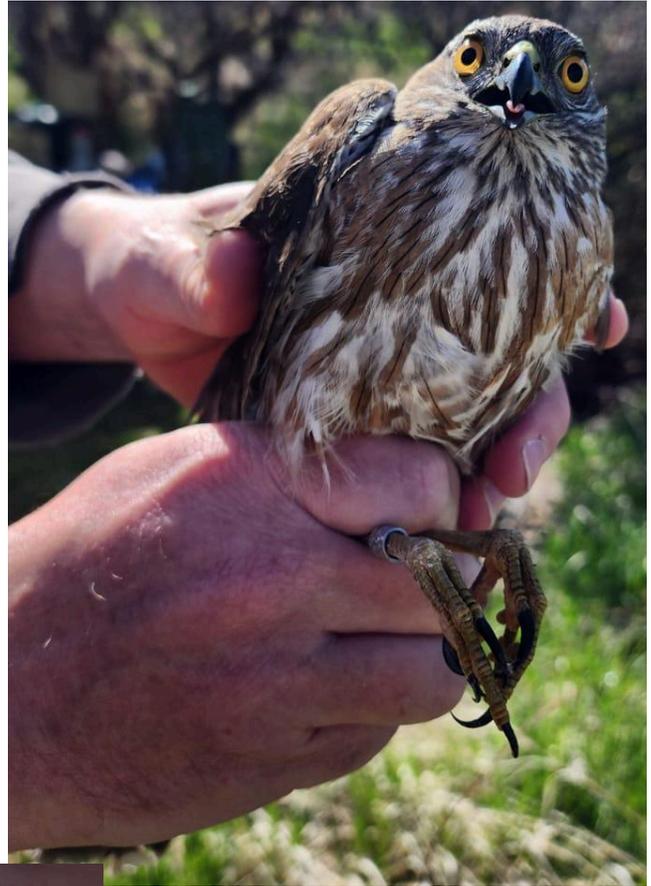
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Tennessee Warbler captured on May 20, 2024. Photo by Renée Haip.



(Left) Sharp-shinned Hawk (female) captured 1 May 2024. Photo by Mike Patterson. (Right) Sharp-shinned Hawk (male) captured 22 May 2024. Photo by Renée Haip. The two images are approximately at the same scale.



Colin Wooley holding Cooper's Hawk (male) captured 17 May 2024. Photo by Renée Haip. (Scale smaller than Sharp-shinned images).

Summary of all captures in 2024. Link for PDF w/ the species codes: www.birdpop.org/docs/misc/Alpha_codes_eng.pdf

Species	New Band	Previous Season Recapture (Return)	Same Season Recapture (Repeat)	Unbanded	Total Individuals
AMGO	4	1			5
AMRE	1		1		1
AMRO	1				1
AUWA	1				1
BCCH	1	4			5
BCHU				2	2
BHCO	1				1
BHGR	1				1
BLGR	1				1
BLJA		1			1
BTLH				5	5
BUOR	10				10
BUSH	1				1
COHA	1				1
COYE	6				6
DUFL	7				7
GCTH	1				1
GRCA	19	2	6		21
GTTO	4				4
HOWR	9	1	3		10
LAZB	2				2
LEFL	3				3
LISP	11		1		11
MGWA	2				2
MOD0	1				1
MWCS	1				1
MYWA	1				1
NOWA	1				1
OCWA	7		1		7
ROWR	2				2
SPT0	1				1
SSHA	2				2
SWTH	21		1		21
TEWA	1				1
TRFL	1				1
WEFL	1				1
WEME	2				2
WETA	1				1
WEWP	6				6
WIWA	1				1
YBCH	2				2
YEWA	19			1	20
Total	158	9	13	8	175