

Rio Mesa Bird Banding Station

Spring 2022

Summary for Week 5: May 2 – 8

Summary: The capture rates are picking up, but it has still been a little slower than expected based on the averages from prior seasons. We have been monitoring Cornell's BirdCast and they are reporting lower than average estimates of migrants passing through Grand County this spring. This week we had 25 captures (15 species) including 4 recaptures (two from previous seasons and two banded earlier in the week). The temperature has been variable and some of the days had heavy wind. All nets are in operable condition.

Monday, May 2nd: Our total bird count dipped down from yesterday, but we still got six birds. Four of which were on the very first run and included a Yellow-breasted Chat that was banded here last year. We also caught our first Wilson's Warbler for the season. Wilson's warblers seem to be the single most abundant warbler captured at this station, so I'm sure it is the first of many.

Tuesday, May 3rd: Very high winds forced us to close early. We were only able to keep the nets open for about two hours. This is our first and only day with zero birds captured.

Wednesday, May 4th: We caught eight birds today which included our first Ash-throated Flycatcher of the season and a Yellow Warbler recapture that was originally banded here in the spring of 2018 and aged as an "After Second Year" bird making it at least five years old.

Thursday, May 5th: Today, despite good banding conditions, we only captured a single bird. A House Wren.

Friday, May 6th: The capture rate picked up again today with 10 birds. Including our first Blue Grosbeak, Mountain Bluebird, and Brewer's Sparrow.

Saturday, May 7th: This is our day off.

Sunday, May 8th: This is our day off.

Weekly Counts

Black-chinned Hummingbird	1
Ash-throated Flycatcher	1
Mountain Bluebird	1
Hermit Thrush	1
House Wren	2
Yellow Warbler	9
Orange-crowned Warbler	1
Wilson's Warbler	1
Common Yellowthroat	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	1
Spotted Towhee	2
Brewer's Sparrow	1
Lincoln's Sparrow	1
Lazuli Bunting	1
Blue Grosbeak	1



