

Rio Mesa Banding Station
Spring 2018
Summary for Week 3: 19 April – 25 April

Week 3 was another slow and windy week at the banding station, though we are starting to see some more diversity and the wintering sparrows and juncos are trickling away. The list of species captured for the year continues to grow, and we added Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, and Black-chinned Hummingbird this week. Our highlight bird for the week was a beautiful after-second year male Intergrade Yellow-rumped Warbler.

This week we captured a total of 54 birds of 21 species, which broke down to 40 banded, 13 recaptures, and 1 hummingbird released unbanded. So far this season we have captured 238 birds of 25 species.

Thursday, 19 April: A cold overcast morning with increasing winds as the temperature rose. We captured 8 birds today, including our first Common Yellowthroat of the year.

Friday, 20 April: High winds forced us to open late and close early today, giving us our slowest day of the season so far: 3 birds captured.

Saturday, 21 April: Today set the pattern for the rest of the week, weather-wise: mild at opening with temperatures rising into the low 70s and increasing winds throughout the morning. We captured 6 birds today.

Sunday, 22 April: We captured 7 birds today, including our first Yellow Warbler of the season (a recapture ASY male).

Monday, 23 April: Today was breezy and we therefore ran only 10 nets for most of the morning, but nonetheless it was our best day of the week for captures, nearly doubling our second best day! The trees around the station were filled with Yellow-rumped Warblers and we captured 7 of them today, including a male intergrade. We caught 15 birds today.

Tuesday, 24 April: We were forced to close at 1040 today due to increasingly strong winds but we had a good day anyway, adding 3 species to the capture list for the season: Ash-throated Flycatcher, Black-chinned Hummingbird, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. We captured 8 birds today.

Wednesday, 25 April: Another slow day to close out the week, with moderate but increasing winds after a chilly opening. We captured 7 birds today.

ALPHA CODE	SPECIES NAME	TOTAL
AMRO	American Robin	2
ATFL	Ash-throated Flycatcher	1
AUWA	Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler	7
BCHU	Black-chinned Hummingbird	1
BGGN	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4
BRSP	Brewer's Sparrow	2
COYE	Common Yellowthroat	1
GRFL	Gray Flycatcher	1
GWCS	Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow	3
HETH	Hermit Thrush	5
LISP	Lincoln's Sparrow	6
MAWR	Marsh Wren	3
ORJU	Pink-sided Dark-eyed Junco	4
ORJU	Oregon Dark-eyed Junco	1
RCKI	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3
SOSP	Song Sparrow	3
SPTO	Spotted Towhee	2
UYRW	AxM (Intergrade) Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
VESP	Vesper Sparrow	1
VIWA	Virginia's Warbler	2
YEWA	Yellow Warbler	1
	TOTAL	54