

**Date:** Jan 14, 2017

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Don Norman

Warren James

Kathryn Brignac



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 6:00 until 12:50 under warm but cloudy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 6 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session.

We captured 5 species

Northern Cardinal (2 new, 1 recap)

White-eyed Vireo (1 recap)

Swamp Sparrow (2 new)

Yellow Bellied Sapsucker (1 new)

Carolina Wren (1 new)

**Notes:**

We captured a respectable number of birds in today's session including two species that we don't capture often. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers are seen and heard fairly frequently at the Woodlands Site, but are not often captured. Swamp sparrows (above) are also an unusual capture (especially 2 of them!) as sparrows tend to occur more on forest edges and in grass and brush. Of our two banding sites, Woodlands is much more open than Delacroix with lots of second growth and shrubby underbrush so it makes sense that most of our few Sparrow captures occur at this site.

**Date:** Jan 28, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Don Norman

Warren James

Lisa Taylor

Jim Powell



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 6:45 until 12:45 under moderate cloudy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 8 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session.

We captured 5 species

Northern Cardinal

Ruby-Crowned Kinglet

Orange-Crowned Warbler

Carolina Chickadee

White-throated Sparrow

**Notes:**

Today was a nice representation of some of our common winter birds (lacking only the usual Carolina Wren!). Yellow-rumped and Orange-crowned Warblers are our most common wintering warblers and carolina Chickadees are quite common, but not always captured. White-throated sparrows (above) however are downright uncommon at this particular site. We also detected 27 species either visually or by ear during the banding session, a fairly high total for this site during the winter.

Species detected included: Northern Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, American Crow, Blue Jay, Barred Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Blue-headed Vireo, Pileated Woodpecker, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Hermit Thrush, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Carolina Chickadee, Orange-crowned Warbler, Bald Eagle, American Robin, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Gray Catbird, Great Blue Heron, Northern Mockingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Common Grackle, Belted Kingfisher.

**Date:** Feb 11, 2017

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Jed Pitre

Cherl Geiger

Jacob Kraft

Jenny Linscott



**Time/Conditions:** 11 Nets were open from 7:00 until 12:30 under warm cloudy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 6 new birds, and recaptured 3 birds from a previous session.

We captured 5 species

Northern Cardinal (1 new, 1 recap)

Myrtle Warbler (1 new) ...aka Yellow-Rumped Warbler

Orange-Crowned Warbler (1 new)

Carolina Wren (1 new, 1 recap)

White-eyed Virio (1 new, 1 recap)

Hermit Thrush (1 new)

**Notes:**

Again we captured a nice sample of common wintering birds including a nice balance of recaptured residents (WEVI, NOCA and CARW) and new birds. I always enjoy catching Hermit Thrushes (above) as well. Thrushes are generally very calm to handle, relatively easy to age and are quite beautiful up close! Again we also had a nice list of species observed.

Other birds observed included: Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, American Goldfinch, Myrtle Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Northern Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-eyed Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Turkey Vulture, Common Yellow-throat, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, House Wren, Gray Catbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Phoebe, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

**Date:** Feb 25, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Warren James

Kathryn Brignac



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:00 until 13:00 under moderate clear breezy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 4 new birds, and recaptured 1 bird from a previous session.

We captured 4 species

Northern Cardinal (1 recap)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (2 new)

Carolina Wren (1 new)

Hermit Thrush (1 new)

**Notes:**

Capture rates were a bit slow at Delacroix compared to Woodlands, but we still got some of the same basic winter birds including a nice Hermit Thrush (above) at this site too. We also detected slightly fewer species on our day list and area searches...perhaps due to a bit of breeze.

Other birds observed included: Red-shouldered Hawk, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Myrtle Warbler, Common Grackle, American Robin, Orange-crowned Warbler, Eastern Phoebe, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Barred Owl, Carolina Wren, American Crow, Fish Crow, White-eyed Vireo.

**Date:** March 4, 2017

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Don Norman

Warren James

Jennifer Linscott

Lara Elmquist

Mike Mahoney

Mary Balyat



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:00 until 12:30 under cool windy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 1 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session. One bird escaped at the net

We captured 4 species

White-eyed Vireo (1 recap)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1 recap)

Carolina Wren (1 escaped)

Myrtle Warbler (1 new)

**Notes:**

I think windy conditions may have kept capture rates a bit low (it's easier for birds to see a moving net and they may be less active if wind is strong). We did however still detect a reasonable variety of birds on our daily survey including plenty of Myrtle Warblers (above). As for the wren that escaped before we could band it...this happens every so often even to experienced banders. Carolina wrens are designed to slip through small spaces in the underbrush and they are extremely slippery and wriggly! We actually found an early Carolina Wren nest this week and saw a Purple Martin. Spring is on the way!

Other birds observed included: Northern Cardinal, White-eyed Vireo, Carolina Wren, Myrtle Warbler, Blue-Jay, Pileated Woodpecker, Orange-crowned Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Common Grackle, Laughing Gull, Double Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red Shouldered Hawk, Gray Catbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Turkey Vulture, American Crow, Fish Crow, Eastern Phoebe, American Goldfinch, Purple Martin, Carolina Chickadee.

**Date:** March 18, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Jed Pitre

Warren James



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:00 until 12:30 under cool windy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 1 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session. One bird escaped at the net

We captured 4 species

White-eyed Vireo (1 recap)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1 recap)

Carolina Wren (1 escaped)

Myrtle Warbler (1 new)

**Notes:**

It was a bit of a slow day bird-wise, but we had lots of great volunteers to keep us company some of whom even finished up a bit of restoration tree planting between net rounds! We are working to remove invasive Chinese privet from the understory and replacing it with native trees and shrubs. Birds like Northern Cardinals (above) will use privet for food and shelter but it differs from their native habitat and greatly alters the structure of the forest and possibly the bird community.

Other birds observed included: Barred Owl, American Crow, Red-shouldered Hawk, White-eyed Vireo, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Carolina Chickadee, Blue-headed Vireo, Northern Parula, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Tufted Titmouse, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Gray Catbird, Fish Crow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Flicker.

(starting to see some early spring birds!)

**Date:** April 18, 2017 (and April 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Jed Pitre

Julia Paschal



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:00 until 12:30 under cool windy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 1 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session. One bird escaped at the net

We captured 4 species

White-eyed Vireo (1 recap)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1 recap)

Carolina Wren (1 escaped)

Myrtle Warbler (1 new)

**Notes:**

We were shorthanded on our original banding day (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) and were only able to run 8 nets. We captured 6 birds but decided to re-do the banding occasion for a more complete survey. Our official day turned out to be excellent with 26 birds captured (easily our highest capture rate since I started last August). We captured a nice variety of species including some gorgeous Indigo Buntings (above). We also heard and observed Painted Buntings, Yellow-billed Cuckoos and a mix of both winter and spring species. Thanks to Jed and to our intern Julia for helping out on a week day!

Other birds observed included: Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Laughing Gull, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, White-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Purple Marten, Carolina Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Hooded Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Painted Bunting, Great Egret, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron.

**Date:** April 23, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

**Emma DeLeon**

Liana DiNunzio

Jena Nierman

Rebecca Howell

Warren James

Jenny Linscott

Anna Perez- Umphrey

Tyler Williams



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:00 until 12:35 under overcast conditions. We had a very brief rain shower but were able to clear nets before and after with no issues.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 6 new birds, and recaptured 3 birds from a previous session.

We captured 3 species

White-eyed Vireo (1 new)

Carolina Wren (1 new, 3 recap)

Hooded Warbler (2 new, 2 recap)

**Notes:**

We had a great group of volunteers today including students and field techs from LSU taking a break from their research on marsh nesting sparrows to band with us for the morning. The birds of the day were probably the Hooded Warblers (above) including some recaps and some new birds. We have lots of breeding HOWAs at the Delacroix Preserve and these colorful birds are always fun to see! Special shout out to our new banding intern Rebecca Howell who will be working to compile data on our daily list surveys.



**Date:** May 13, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Warren James

Kathryn Brignac

Jed Pitre



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 6:40 until 13:30 under warm partly cloudy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 11 new birds, and recaptured 8 birds from a previous session.

We captured 7 species

Northern Cardinal (3 recap, 2 new)

Carolina Wren (4 new)

White-eyed Vireo (1 recap, 1 new)

Magnolia Warbler (2 new)

Hooded Warbler (4 new)

Prothonotary Warbler (1 new)

Swainson's Thrush (1 new)

**Notes:**

Despite flooded conditions (or maybe because of them?) we had a great banding session today including several species of migrants and residents. Both Swainson's Thrush and Magnolia Warbler (above) are unusual captures only seen in Louisiana during their migration. Prothonotary warbler is a common swamp/ flood forest breeding bird in our area and is frequently found on the property, but is not often captured at the Woodlands Banding site. Perhaps the unusually wet conditions helped attract this bird to the nets.

**Date:** May 28, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Warren James

Kathryn Brignac



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 6:30 until 12:15 under warm partly cloudy conditions. There was a light drizzle while we were opening nets which burned off quickly.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 7 new birds, and recaptured 4 birds from a previous session.

We captured 4 species

White-eyed Vireo (2 new, 2 recap)

Carolina Wren (3 new, 1 recap)

Hooded Warbler (2 new)

Northern Cardinal (1 recap)

**Notes:**

The breeding season is in full swing with lots of HOWA, NOCA, WEVI and CARW singing and showing up in our nets with evidence of breeding condition. Male birds develop a cloacal protuberance (swelling of the cloaca) and females, and males of some species, develop a brood patch (featherless patch over the abdomen for incubating eggs and young). We also caught our first juvenile bird of the year. The Carolina wren above still has some of the yellow "gape" at the corners of its bill characteristic of nestlings and young fledglings.

**Summer Banding 2017:**

**Woodlands Trail :** June 10, July 1, August 19, September 9

**Delacroix:** June 17, July 23, August 26, September 16



**Capture Summary:**

**Woodlands Trail: total birds 25 ( 5 recaps )**

NOCA 10

CARW 5

HOWA 3

WEVI 4

PROW 2

NOWA 5

**Delacroix: total birds 29 ( 8 recaps)**

HOWA 9

CARW 4

NOWA 3

ACFL 3

NOCA 2

CACH 2

EAWP 1

KEWA 1

SUTA 1

YWAR 1

REVI 1

**Notes:**

Over the past few months we captured a nice variety of our local bottomland hardwood forest breeding birds at both sites. The top captures were Northern Cardinal and Hooded Warbler and Northern Cardinal. We caught decent numbers of Hooded Warblers at both sites, and an unexpectedly high number of Northern Waterthrushes at the end of the summer, but fewer Northern Cardinals and Carolina Wrens than were expected. We also seemed to see fewer recaps and juvenile birds than I expected, but we will have to wait for the end of year report to be sure. On a positive note, August 26<sup>th</sup> at Delacroix was an especially exiting day as we started to get into early fall migration. We think bad weather associated with Hurricane Harvey may have pushed some unusual birds like the Summer Tanager in our direction. Summer Tanager (above) was a new bird for our project and Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Kentucky Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, and Red-eyed Vireo captured the same day are ALL unusual for this site!



Pictured above Kentucky Warbler, Northern Waterthrush and Prothonotary Warbler.

**Date:** Oct 15, 2017

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Maureen McGuire

Anne Lane

Erin Langille



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:30 until 13:00 under warm partly cloudy conditions. We closed a few minutes early as a thunder storm was moving into the area.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 7 new birds, and recaptured 4 birds from a previous session.

We captured 4 species

White-eyed Vireo (2 new)

Carolina Wren (1 recap)

Common Yellowthroat (3 new)

Gray Catbird (1 new)

**Notes:**

Despite flooded trails, a short-handed banding crew, trees down in net lanes, an impending thunder storm and a truly brutal number of mosquitoes we persevered to capture a few nice birds including three Common Yellowthroats and our first of the fall Gray Catbird!



**Date:** Oct 28, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix Preserve

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Maureen McGuire

Warren James



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 7:30 until 13:55 under partly cloudy conditions. It was a bit windy today with some very light rain in the morning, but things cleared as the day progressed.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 4 new birds, and recaptured 0 birds from a previous session.

We captured 2 species

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (3 new)

Eastern Phoebe (1 new)

**Notes:**

Fall is here and with it some of our first wintering birds. We captured our first Eastern Phoebes and Ruby-crowned Kinglets of the season and heard Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Blue Headed Vireos.

**Date:** Nov 12, 2017

**Site:** Woodlands Trail

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Warren James

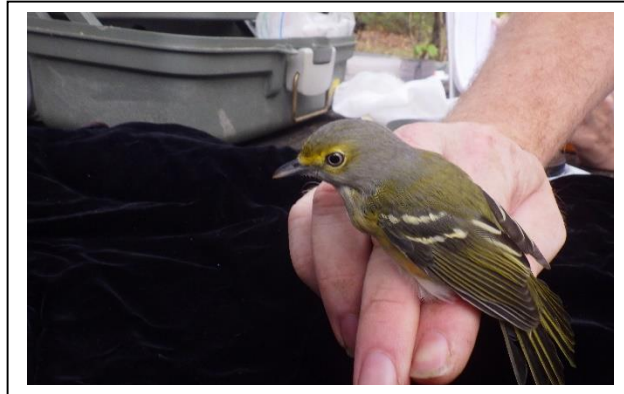
Bob Lemon

Lauren McGuinness

Maureen McGuire

Elizabeth Williams

Kathryn Brignac



**Time/Conditions:** 12 Nets were open from 7:30 until 13:55 under clear, breezy conditions. One net was closed due to a tree down in the lane.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 2 new birds, and recaptured 2 birds from a previous session.

We captured 2 species

White-eyed Vireo (1 new, 2 recaptured)

Eastern Phoebe (1 new)

**Notes:**

Fall is here and with it some of our first wintering birds. We captured our first Eastern Phoebes and Ruby-crowned Kinglets of the season and heard Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Blue Headed Vireos. The White-eyed Vireo shown above actually has brown eyes since it is a Hatch Year Juvenile. Its eyes will lighten and turn white as it gets older.

**Date:** Nov 19, 2017

**Site:** Delacroix

**Volunteers/ Banders:**

Emma DeLeon

Warren James



**Time/Conditions:** 13 Nets were open from 6:40 until 12:30 under clear, but cool and breezy conditions.

**Capture Summary:**

We captured 4 new birds, and recaptured 0 birds from a previous session.

We captured 2 species

Eastern Phoebe (1 new)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (2 new)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1 new)

**Notes:**

Banding was pretty slow today, perhaps because of cool breezy conditions, but we captured at least a few winter birds including the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker pictured above. We don't often capture these birds but woodpeckers are incredibly cool up close. They have specially adapted (zygodactyl) toes and long claws for climbing, stiff tail feathers for support as they go up trees, and barbed tongues for fishing insects out of holes in the bark. They also have specially adapted skull structure to protect their brains while drilling holes! Woodpeckers also have interesting molt patterns and unlike most birds can be aged with more detail up to their 3<sup>rd</sup> of 4<sup>th</sup> year.



