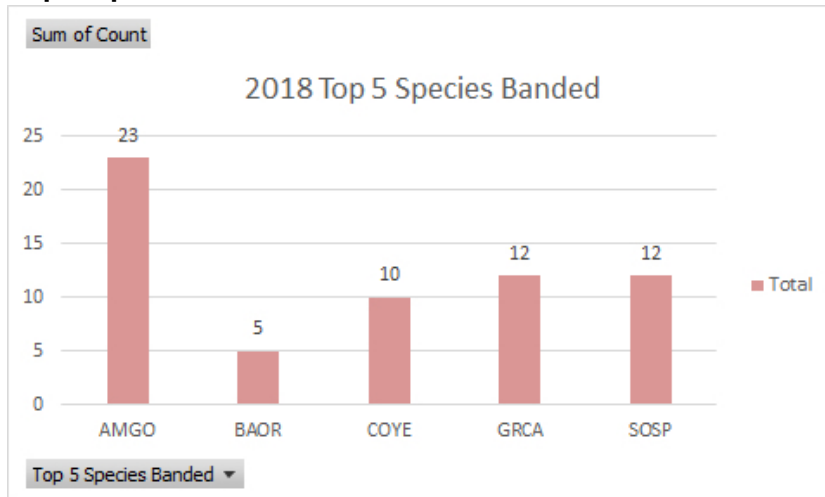


2018 Annual Report of the Biocore Bird Banding Station by Jacqueline Sandberg

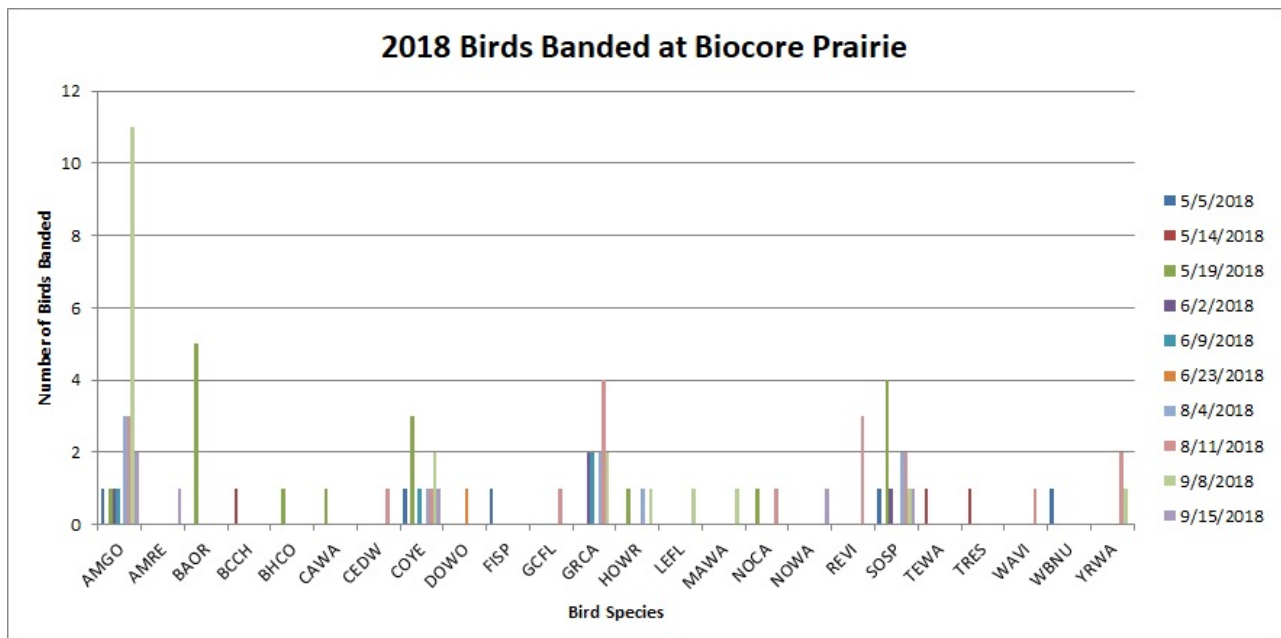
In 2018, we banded **88** songbirds at Biocore Prairie. We additionally identified 68 different avian species by sight or sound (presence or absence) during banding activities within three main areas of the Biocore Prairie: the new prairie, old prairie, and new field. Here are a few fun graphs that I put together to show our dates of banding, counts, and species diversity:

The entire list of North American birds can be found online at http://www.birdpop.org/docs/misc/Alpha_codes_eng.pdf.

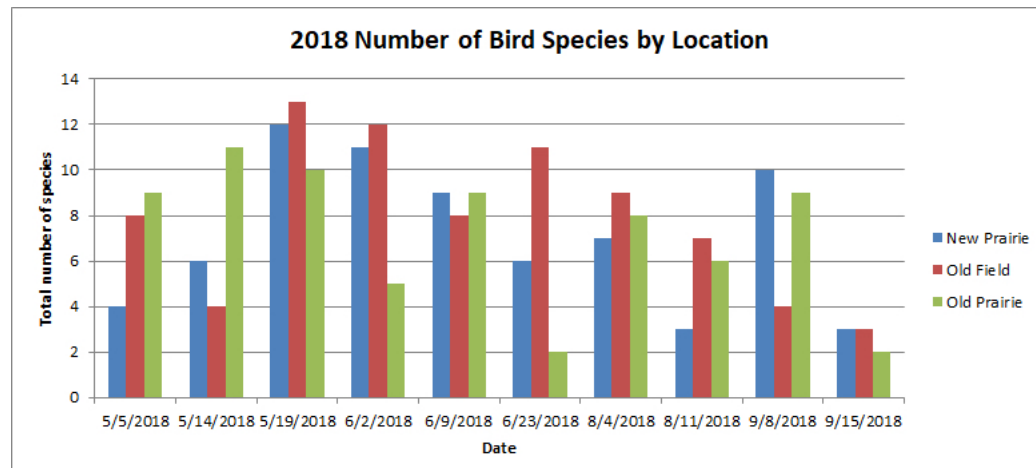
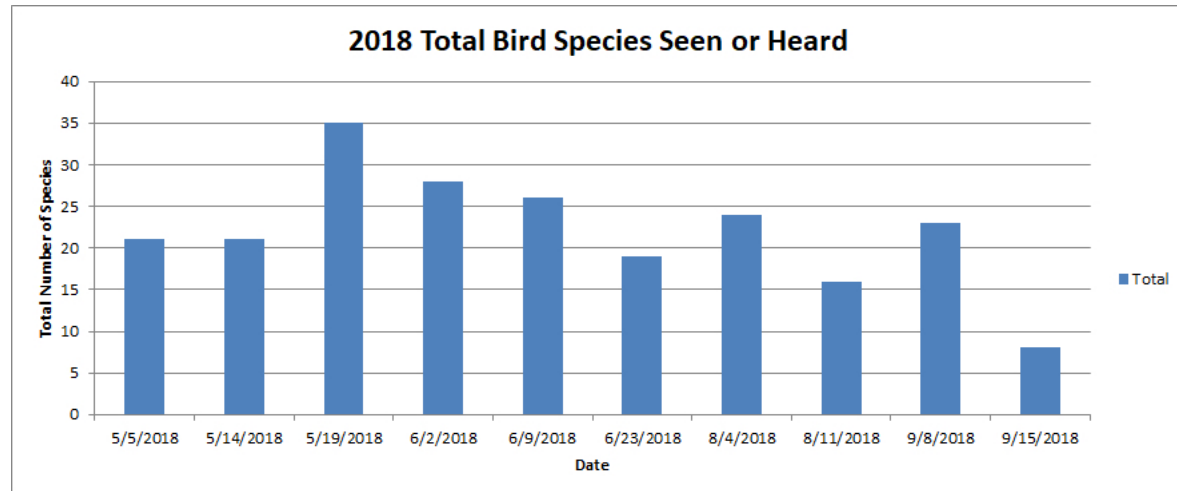
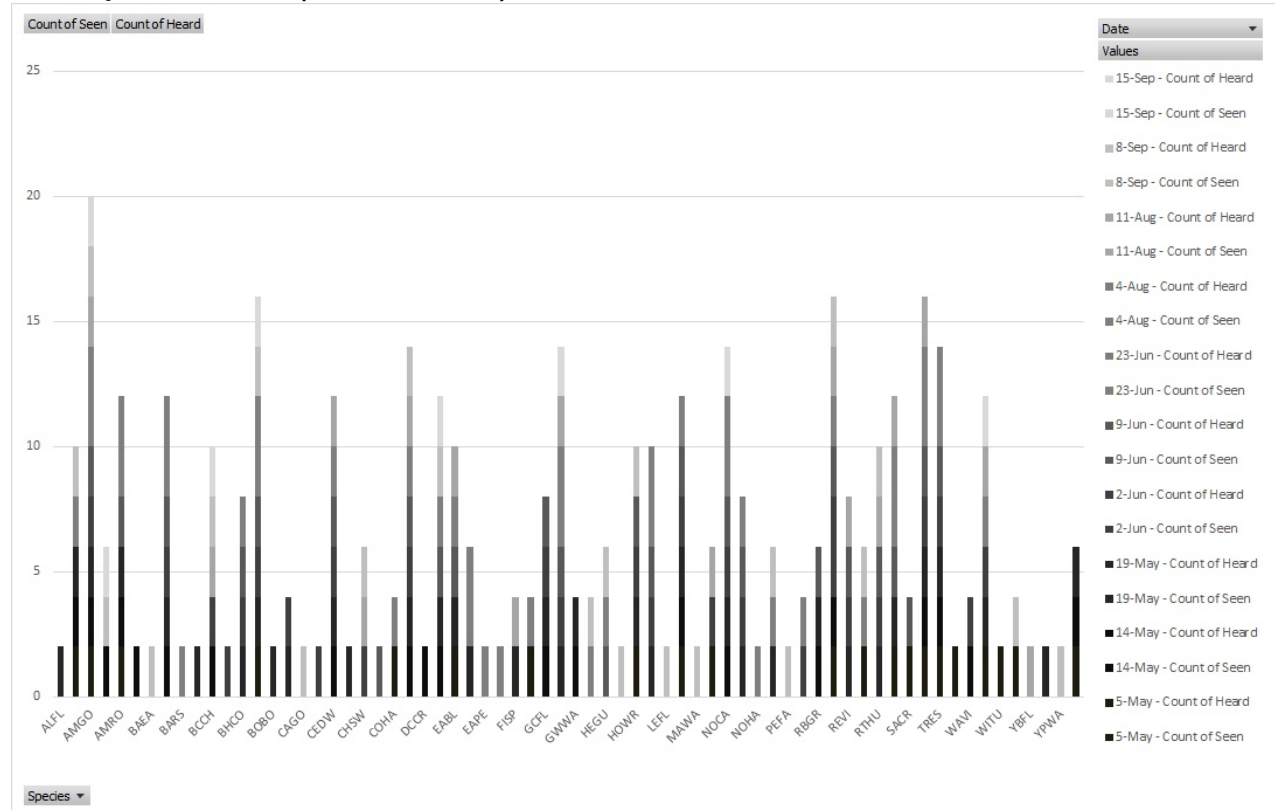
Top 5 species banded

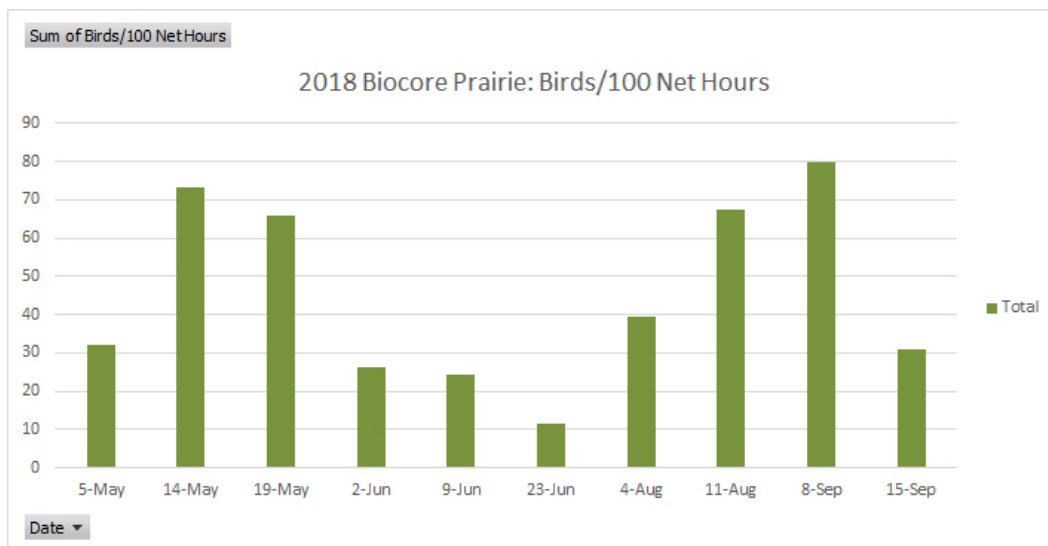


Four-letter abbreviations: American Goldfinch, Baltimore Oriole, Common Yellowthroat Warbler, Gray Catbird, and Song Sparrow



2018 Species Count (seen or heard)





Total net hours (2018 Season): 139.45 hours open

Banding Operation at the Biocore Prairie

The Observatory, originally founded in 2001 by Dr. Mara McDonald (1947-2016), is an all-volunteer bird banding operation that monitors bird populations in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. The Observatory is a permitted research project approved through the UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Banding offers a wonderful opportunity for people to see birds up close, learn about their migration and nesting patterns, and understand how natural areas enhance their biological success. Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome to attend banding operations on Saturday mornings from ~7:00 - 11:00 am between the months of April and October each year (weather and schedules permitting, preferably opening our nets by dawn). Volunteers are taught species identification, mist-netting procedures, handling techniques, and basic banding procedures. We are currently entering our 19th year in operation, and we are excited to have you with us!

Banding requires significant time and experience by those who are licensed and authorized to capture wild birds. At the Observatory, a master bander supervises and trains volunteers, including UW students, staff, retirees, and members of the Madison community. Each bird is caught in a mist net, carefully removed, measured (weight, age, sex, and a variety of other measurements), banded and released. Between 2001 and 2006, more than 1394 birds of 70+ species were netted. About 60 million birds, representing hundreds of species, have been banded in North America since 1904, and about 4 million bands have been recovered and reported. Data from banded birds are submitted to and managed by The North American Bird Banding Program which is under the general direction of the U.S. Geological Survey and the Canadian Wildlife Service.

The Biocore Prairie Bird Banding Observatory in Madison, Wisconsin is currently managed by two main volunteer coordinators, and we would like to take this time to introduce ourselves:

Jackie E. Sandberg
 Biocore Prairie Bird Banding Observatory Volunteer Coordinator
<http://www.friendslakeshorepreserve.com/bird-observatory.html>

Jacqueline E. Sandberg, M.S. CBSD
 Wildlife Rehabilitation Training Coordinator