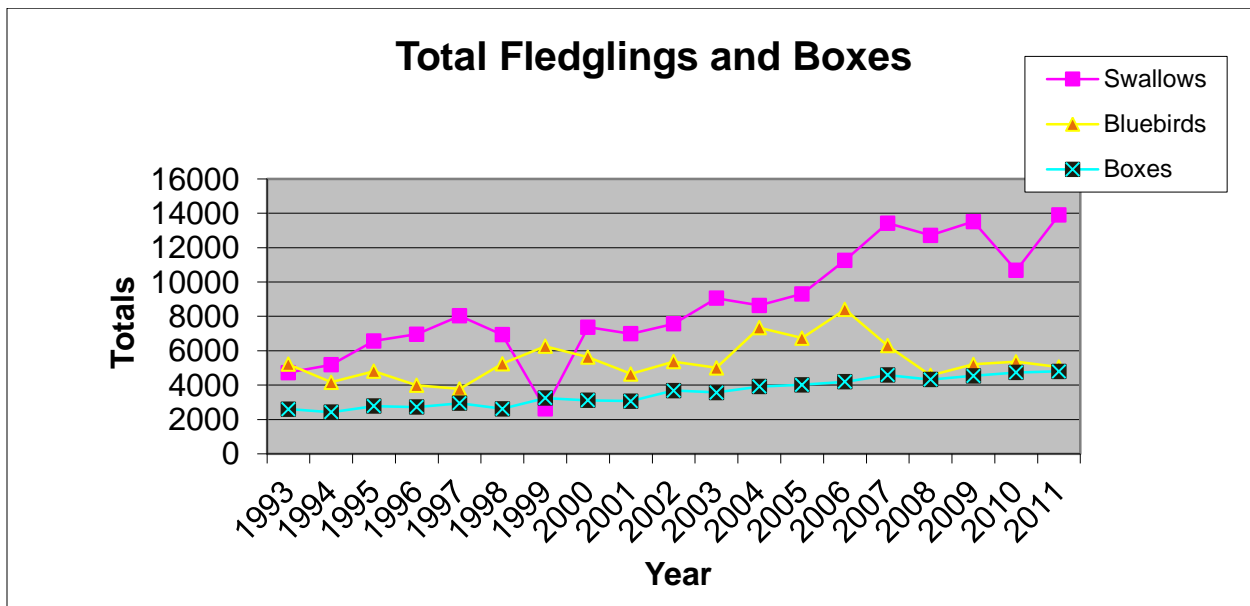


Photo by Russ Amy

Recovery and Decline

This was a good year for Tree Swallows (TRES) and generally a poor year for Mountain Bluebirds (MOBL). Total TRES fledged were 13,911, which was our best year! (The previous was 2009 with 13,518.) It was considerably better than last year when only 10,680 fledged. Total MOBL fledged were 5,053, down from last year's 5,354, and in fact our 6th worst year. The best year was 2006 when 8,405 MOBL fledged.



Our number of boxes was 4,803, up slightly from the top year, 2010, which showed 4,734 boxes. The chart above indicates that Tree Swallows are gradually increasing, and that Mountain Bluebirds are slowly declining. This provides impetus for us to find ways to help MOBL increase.

I point out, however, that our numbers are a little lower than they probably could have been. A few monitors were unable to submit their results due to illness or other causes. That represented about 100 boxes. I suspect that has been the case every year! I am grateful to all 58 of our monitoring teams for their efforts to cover their routes and provide me the statistics in good time.

Estimating your statistics

Every so often a monitor is unable to determine with a degree of accuracy some of the vital statistics on her trail. Do NOT despair! I have ways of converting your partial scores. What I do at the end of the season is create the various ratios below, and then apply them on those routes where a monitor has insufficient data. I can do this because most of you send in complete statistics. Thanks for that.

Here are the various ratios I used this year:

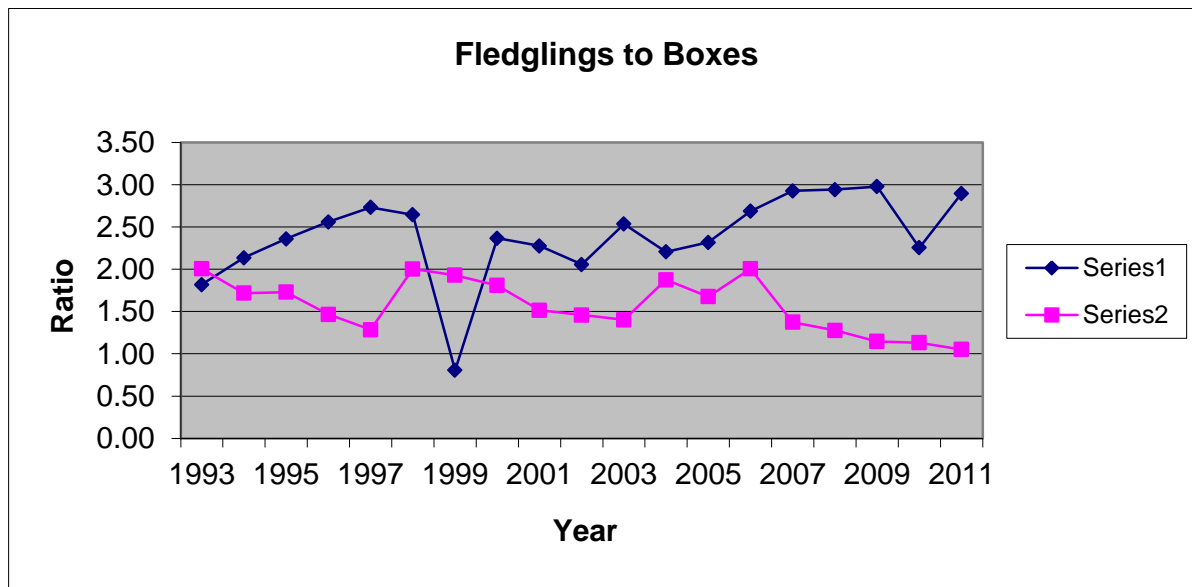
Ratio	Mountain Bluebirds	Tree Swallows
Successful Nests to Nest Attempts	0.87	0.91
Hatchlings to Eggs	0.86	0.88
Fledglings to Hatchlings	0.93	0.93
Fledglings to Eggs	0.79	0.82
Eggs to Nest Attempts(Clutch size)	5.30	5.75
Hatchlings to Successful Nests	5.21	5.56



Photo:
Russ
Amy

Nest Attempts includes all nests in which at least one egg has been laid. **Successful Nests** includes all nests from which at least one fledgling left to begin a life in the world. **Hatchlings** are those birds who crawled out of the eggs and survived at least one day. **Fledglings** are the birds who were able to leave the nest by flying.

So, if in a future year you feel that your partial statistics are not worth sending in, think again! We can convert any of your data into a probable set which will parallel the average experience.



Monitors and Routes

New Trails 2011

New Monitor	Previous Monitor	Trail Location
SW		
Duncan and Nancy Rand	Sue Cooper Robertson (2009)	Naphtha (E of Black Diamond)
Duncan and Nancy Rand	Mary Huston	Hwy 22, N of Hwy 549
Terry Galvon	Lynda Wesselman	S of Turner Valley



Bill Taylor's new route

NW

Ray Woods	Joyce Goldsmith	S. of Elkton
Diana Halladay	*Walter Gruszecki	NW of Olds
Deborah Nichol	Anne Gerencher	Horse Creek Rd S of Water Valley
Alexander de Boer		Butters ranch near Benchlands



Photo 1 by Di Halladay

Dan Measor (starting 2012)	Airdrie Jr. Forest Wardens	Near Madden
Myrna and Jerry Sentes	Dorothy Pecksen	N of Cochrane
Colleen Rittwage		Foxdale Farms, T280 W of Hwy 22 (N of Cochrane)
Keith Cole/Sharon Burns		W of Westbrook School
Heather Simonds		Glenbow Ranch E of Cochrane
Samuel Mitchell		Springbank
Trail abandoned		Margaret and Rudy Sieb/Carol Armitt Bears paw area



Photo 2 by Di Halladay (see above)

Notes:

Duncan and Nancy Rand are former monitors from Lethbridge. They helped out Mike Risely with banding last year. Lynda Wesselman has moved to Stettler. Ray Woods is adding Joyce Goldsmith's trail to his. Up to about 1994, Ray was monitoring this trail, but it was given away when he was transferred to Europe for 5 years. *Walter Gruszecki is still keeping his DeWinton Gun club nest-boxes. Page 3

Stan Palmer 1924 to 2011

We noted regretfully the passing of a long time monitor, Stan Palmer, whose route in DeWinton expanded to over 100 boxes until 1999 when he and his wife retired. Mike Risely now has this route. There are countless anecdotes about Stan and his avian adventures, including encounters with bees, Starlings, and Red-tailed Hawks. One of his TRES was recovered in Nebraska the same year banded.

Challenges to Monitors



Monitors can encounter all sorts of hazards and interesting situations. Reports came in about cows following or impeding our vehicles, heavy



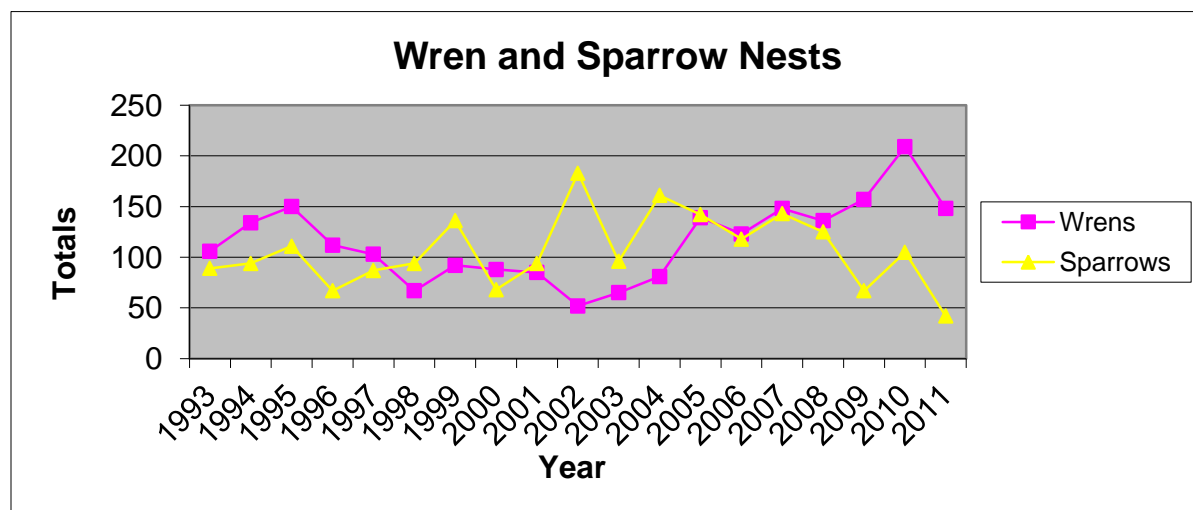
rains which make access to boxes almost



impossible, deep late April snowfalls which hide boxes, and other residents who object to our intrusions. All in a day's work!

Photos by Susanne Maidment (top left and centre)

Photos by Wim and Marijke Jalink (top right and bottom)



Other Nesters and Causes of Nest Failure

The most common other nesters this year were squirrels, mice and chickadees. In total, other nesters accounted for 45 boxes, compared to 42 House Sparrow boxes and 148 House Wren boxes. What can we do to prevent other nesters? Perhaps the location of the specific boxes might be considered. You may have to move repeat offender boxes to a location that is not other-nester-habitat-friendly! Monitors mentioned many causes of nest failure. These included Weather (named by 15 monitors), Predation (22), Vandalism (11), Abandonment (6), Construction (6), and a wide variety of other causes including Ants, Blowflies, Cows, Elk rubbing the box, and Water Sprinklers.



Photo by Jack Borno

The predators included weasels, raccoons, a bear, a porcupine, and several unknown predators. Bill Taylor had one surprising encounter: opening a box expecting to band six 12 day old TRES young, he found himself face to face with a little brown head! She was unwilling to leave her “lunch box!” And a glance showed Bill that her preparations were complete: he would not be banding any in that box. Later he checked, and the Short-Tailed Weasel had left all six dead in the box, having satisfied her hunger craving. We suspect many of our unknown predators may be this animal. It is likely more common than we realize. It may account for mysterious disappearances of eggs as well.

Can we prevent predation? Screwing the bottoms of boxes is pretty efficacious against raccoons, but weasels can squeeze through the entrance hole. Maybe the Sparrow Blocker (to be demonstrated at the meeting) would help. Blowflies can be removed before causing deaths, but can we be certain that the nest does not contain more of them? Weather is one of nature’s natural occurrences. It is hard to prevent consequences. A very heavy downpour could seep inside a box and soak the nest. If you suspect this may happen, you could try replacing the nest with dry grass or clean wood chips. Some have had limited success with this method. You have to ensure the wood chips contain no toxins.

Surprises

We often come across the unusual or unexpected. These can include white MOBL eggs such as these recorded by Dick Stauffer, or a very rare albino (all white) or leucistic bird. Nancy Davis captured this albino MOBL fledgling for us at Lake Kooconusa. Some of us with



white bluebird eggs are cooperating in a study – see Don Stiles to participate.



North American Bluebird Society (NABS)

We recommend your joining NABS which produces an excellent quarterly journal, *Bluebird*. Single memberships are \$20 (US) per year. An online membership form with payment through PayPal is available at www.nabluebirdsociety.org. The articles are always interesting and you can find out how to attend the annual conventions which are held in various avian-friendly locations.

George Loades Style Boxes

Although George passed away a few years ago, he left us the dimensions of his boxes so that ambitious DIYs can emulate his carpentry skills:

For Mountain Bluebirds and Tree Swallows

All 3/4" plywood except where noted.

Hole size 1 9/16", hole 2 1/2" from top.

Screw Top Opening

Wire Top Opening

Front	5 1/2" X 10 1/2"	Same
Back	5 1/2" X 12"	Same
<i>Photo by Bill Taylor</i>		
Sides	8" X 10 1/2" (front), 12 " (back)	Same
* Removable Bottom	5 7/16" X 6 1/2"	Same
Bottom Seats	3/4" X 4 3/4" (2)	Same
Roof	8" X 11"	Same
Roof Screw Plate	1 1/2" X 4 3/4" (2)	Same (1 only at back)



Extra needed for wire top boxes:

Back Strip 2 1/2" X 21"

Cleat above roof 2" X 2 1/2"

18" of flexible wire plus two 10 X 1 1/4" screws at the side to wrap wire around. Front, back, roof screw plates, and cleat above roof need to be cut at an 11° angle on one side. *Bottom recommended at 1" plywood (3/4" is acceptable.) If raccoons or weasels are present, it may be necessary to put screws in to hold bottom. Screw top boxes are more secure but require a power drill to open (or extra hand strength if using a manual screw driver). Wire top boxes are less secure, but easier to open.

Screws: Two #12 X 1 3/4" to hold roof on. (One screw for wire-top-opening box.) Quantity of 1 1/4" screws to secure sides to front and backs, secure bottom seats, secure roof screw plates, (and back strips, cleat above roof for wire top boxes).

Banders on Bluebird Trails 2011

Permit	Name	Phone No.	E-mail
10488	Don Stiles	403-271-4689	stilesdj@shaw.ca
Sub-permittees of Don Stiles			
10488 A	Ray Woods	403-241-6007	riwoods@telusplanet.net
L	Marijke Jalink	403-281-0058	wimarj@telus.net
M	Andrew Holder	403-678-4010	holderincanmore@shaw.ca
P	Isabelle Orr	403-274-3802	tocats@telus.net
T	Les Stegenga	403-208-1633	lesstegenga@hotmail.com
V	Brian Exton	403-253-8142	
AB	Walt Glanville	403-282-6404	glanvilw@telus.net
AE	Barry Trakalo	403-251-2091	btrak@telus.net
AF	Bill Taylor	403-244-3044	durham825@shaw.ca
AI	Murray Mackay	403-783-4310	mmackay@telusplanet.net
AJ	Jack Borno	403-678-8760	jackborn@shaw.ca
AN	Don Conrad	403-649-1047	djconrad@shaw.ca
AP	Ron Reist	403-556-8043	rreist1@shaw.ca
AR	Dick Stauffer	403-556-6004	sapl@telus.net
AS	Lenora Brown	403-931-1016	
AT	Ray Harris	403-553-2646	raharris@xplornet.com
AW	Anne Weerstra	03-932-4264	biota@xplornet.com
AX	Nancy Davis	403-932-5450	bndavis@shaw.ca
AY	Mary Jane Hunter	403-249-0048	hunterkm@telus.net
AZ	Matt Ginn	403-922-1860	matthewgarfieldginn@gmail.com
Sub-permittee of Grahame Booth			
10666C	Shonna McLeod	403-281-0573	shonnamc@telus.net
Sub-permittee of Doug Collister			
10523J	Pat Mitchell	403-286-4566	deemit@telus.net
Sub-permittee of Cam Finlay			
10081AP	Susanne Maidment	403-247-8595	swadl@hotmail.com
Independent Researcher			
10826	Melanie Rathburn	403-440-8636	mrathburn@mtroyal.ca
Sub-permittee of Gwen Tietz			
10498A	Nancy Rand	403-500-1929	dnrand@telus.net

Most of the others' sub-permittees get their MOBL and TRES bands from Don Stiles.

Photos by Jack Borno



Banding Highlights 2011

MOBL recoveries were 186, up from last year's 157, and TRES recoveries were 217, similar to last year's 215. See Table 1A – Summary of 2011 Recoveries for distance moved, whether banded as an adult or young, and age distribution.

*Notes - The term **recovery** used is a generic term which describes when a bird with a band is found, whether alive or dead. Almost all of the birds mentioned will have been recaptured alive and released., These recoveries are all of birds who have migrated south for the winter and then returned, except for young birds banded and recaptured the same year. Most of our birds return near their banding sites. The long-distance recoveries are exceptions and very interesting! See below!*

Long Distance Bluebird Recoveries

Calgary Area Nestbox Monitors were involved with a total of 8 long distance MOBL recoveries in 2011; 7 recovered in the Calgary Area, and one banded in the Calgary area recovered near Leduc. All were banded as young, 3 in 2010, 4 in 2009 and 1 in 2008. Distance moved varied from 60 km (37.2 mi) to 220 km (136.5 mi). Details follow:

Ron Reist recovered four long distance MOBLs in the Olds area as follows:

1. 2231-91665 was banded as a young in 2009 by Pres winter of Viking. This bird moved 220 km (136.5 mi) SW. This was the third Pres Winter banded bird recovered by Ron since he started monitoring in 2003.
2. 2291-36721 banded as a young in 2010 by Don Conrad SW of Hartell, moved 119 km (74 mi) N. This bird was recovered on a trail west of Didsbury monitored by Ian Hopfe, a friend of Ron.
3. 2431-96167, banded as a young in 2010 by Nancy Davis on the Sibbald Flats Road SW of Cochrane, moved 93.7 km (58.1 mi) NNE.
4. 8001-80476, banded as a young in 2010 by Myrna Pearman at Ellis Bird Farm, moved 60 km (37.2 mi) SSW. This was the second recovery of an Ellis Bird Farm MOBL by Ron.

Bob Danner of Edmonton recovered 2291-35638 twelve miles SW of Leduc. This bird was banded as a young in 2008 by Ron Reist east of Olds and moved about 145 km (90 mi) N.

Dick Stauffer recovered 2231-14220, banded as a young in 2009 by Murray Mackay near Ponoka. This bird moved 108 km (67 mi) SSW. This is the first recovery we have had in the Calgary Area of a MOBL banded by Murray Mackay, who has been banding for many years.

Two birds banded by Shonna McLeod on her Leighton Centre trail SW of Calgary were recovered at considerable distances to the north:

2261-89743, banded as a young in 2009, was recovered by new monitor Diana Halladay 14 mi W of Bowden. It moved 127 km (79 mi) N.

2261-89765, banded as a young in 2009, was recovered by Isabelle Orr west of Airdrie, moved 60 km (37.2 mi) NNW.

Photo by Jack Borno

Page 8



Long Distance Tree Swallow Recoveries (See Table 1B)

The longest distance TRES recovery was 2311-86804 banded as a young in 2008 by Russ Dawson in the Dog Creek area of BC which is about 85 km south of Williams Lake. It was recovered by Mike Risely in his box D15 on his trail about 2.4 km S of DeWinton. Most of Mike's boxes, including this one, are located on scattered aspen trees in a pasture. This bird moved about 586 km ESE. It is a similar movement to a TRES recovered last year at East Didsbury that was banded also by Russ Dawson west of Prince George, BC that moved 667 km SE. Russ Dawson is a professor of biology at the University of Northern BC in Prince George. His study area at Dog Creek is in a very arid area across the Fraser River from the Gang Ranch. There are 190 paired boxes. The main focus of the study is bluebirds and there are bluebirds in each pair.

The next longest distance TRES recovery was 2221-13791 banded as a young in 2006 by George Loades in the Priddis area and recovered by Dick Stauffer west of Olds, having moved about 106 km (66 mi) N.

The third longest was banded on Dick Stauffer's trail southwest of Olds, and recovered on Don Stiles' trail east of Didsbury at a distance of 34.2 km (21.2 mi) E

Oldest Birds

The oldest bird recovered this year was a TRES banded on Ron Reist's East Olds trail as a young in 2003 making it 8 years old. It was recovered by Dick Stauffer west of Olds in 2008 having moved 30 km (18.5 mi) WSW and again in 2011 in the adjacent box. Next oldest birds recovered were three 6 year old MOBL by Isabelle Orr, Ron Reist and Mike Truch; and two 6 year TRES by Mary Jane Hunter and Bill Taylor.

Birds Recovered on Adjacent Trails

Don Conrad recovered 3 MOBL on his trail west of Nanton that were banded as young (2 in 2010 and 1 in 2009) by Brian Keeling west of Stavely. These birds moved distances of approximately 15, 16 and 30 km mostly to the north. Brian Keeling reports his bands to Gwen Tietz of the Lethbridge Group.

Ron Reist recovered 5 TRES on his East Olds trail that were banded by Don Stiles on his East Didsbury trail. These birds were banded in 2010 (2), 2009 (2) and 2008 (1), and moved distances of from 6.1 to 12.4 km mostly to the north. Four of these were banded as young and one as an adult.



Barry Trakalo and Don Stiles recovered only MOBL banded on adjacent trails. Barry recovered 3 MOBL banded as young on Bill Taylor's trail which moved distances of 3.0, 4.5, and 11.3 km. A fourth MOBL was banded as a young on Shonna McLeod's trail in 2009. It moved 3.6 km N to Don Stiles trail in 2010 and then 1.6 km W in 2011 to Barry's trail. Don Stiles recovered 2 MOBL banded as young on Shonna McLeod's trail which moved distances of 4.3 and 7.0 km. *(Photo by Jack Borno)*

Same Year Recoveries

Two TRES moved from Ron Reist's trail to Don Stiles' trail in the same year after failed nests at distances of 13.3 km and 23.5 km to the south. These are considerable distance for birds to move within the same year. A similar situation was noted last year but it was a MOBL.

Three of Six Young MOBL Banded in the Same Nest Recaptured

On June 10, 2007 George Loades banded 6 young MOBL in his box 241 in the Jumping Pound area using the numbers 2261-77319 through 77324. George recaptured 77321 in 2008, 0.8 km to the east. Nancy Davis recaptured 77324 in 2009 and 77323 in 2011 on her trail on Hwy 68 about 3.0 km to the west. This makes three out of six nestlings from that box that have been recaptured – maybe all the females?

Members of the Public

Corinne Fasoli Tucker found a dead MOBL on her patio, believed due to a window strike. It was banded as a young in 2010 by Lenora Brown west of Millarville. It moved about 3.5 mi NE.

Jim Burkell found a dead TRES in his garden in the McKenzie Lake district near the Bow River in southeast Calgary, believed to have hit a glass rail. It was banded by George Loades as an adult in 2009 in the Jumping Pound area. This bird moved about 43.9 km (27.2 mi) SE. Jim opened the band and followed the directions to report the band.

Ron Reist recaptures

Ron Reist again recovered the most birds, 40 MOBL and 85 TRES. Most of his recovered TRES were banded as adults (83) whereas the MOBL were more nearly even with 19 banded as adults and 21 as young.

Wrong Number

Don Stiles recovered a female MOBL sitting on 6 eggs with a band number he reported as 8051-64855. As we haven't had a prefix number 8051 for 15 years he knew it was a foreign recovery and reported it over the Internet. The reply back was that this number was a Fox Sparrow banded in BC in 1996, so it was obviously a wrong number. Don went out on May 31 to recheck the band had hatched and the bird was her. Attempts were made to see if they had a banded transposed. This was of the need to check band numbers carefully.



Photo by Jack Borno

Table 1A- Summary of 2011 MOBL Recoveries													
	•Distance Moved			Banded as		Age at Recapture						Total	
	Same Box	>5km to	>24km	Adult	Young	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	or<5km	<24km											
Ron Reist	28	12		19	21	10	21	4	4		1		40
Don Conrad	17	2		8	11	3	7	6	2	1			19
Melanie Rathburn	16	3		10	9	9	9		1				19
Mike Truch	7	4		8	3		8	1		1	1		11
Shonna McLeod	7			3	4	3	1	2	1				7
Susanne Maidment	5			4	3		5	1		1			7
Matt Ginn	1			1	5		3	3					6
Mary Jane Hunter	5			3	2		3	1		1			5
Marijke Jalink	4			4	0		2	2					4
Dick Stauffer	3	1		3	1		1	2		1			4
Isabelle Orr	3			2	1	1		1			1		3
Anne Weerstra	3			2	1		2	1					3
Jennifer Hilborne	3			3	0		3						3
Ray Woods	1	1		1	1	1	1						2
Bill Taylor	2			2	0		2						2
Pat Michell	2			2	0		2						2
Other Banders	2			2	0		1		1				2
Total Banders	109	23	0	77	62	27	71	24	9	5	3		139
Cross Trail	9	22	15	2	44	21	20	4	1				46
Members of the Public		1			1			1					1
Total	118	46	15	79	107	48	91	29	10	5	3		186
Other Banders:	Brian Exton 1, Ray Harris 1												



Photos by Lynda Alderman – Black-Capped Chickadee nest

Table 1B Recoveries of Tree Swallows (TRES)	•Distance Moved			Banded as		Age at Recapture								Total
	Same Box or<5km	>5km to <24km	>24km	Adult	Young	1	2	3	4	5	6	8		
Ron Reist	73	12		83	2	1	48	25	7	4			85	
Dick Stauffer	14	2		13	3		9	2	4			1	16	
Bill Taylor	11	1		11	1	1	7	3			1		12	
Anne Weerstra	11			11	0		4	4	2	1			11	
Barry Trakalo	10			10	0		7		2	1			10	
Marijke Jalink	8			7	1	1	3	1	1	2			8	
Susanne Maidment	3			4	4		3	3	2				8	
Matt Ginn	2			3	4		3	2	1	1			7	
Pat Mitchell	6	1		7	0			5	2				7	
Don Stiles	6			6	0		3	2	1				6	
Shonna McLeod	6			6	0		3	3					6	
Ray Woods	5			5	0		2	2	1				5	
Mary Jane Hunter	4	1		2	3		1	1		2	1		5	
Isabelle Orr	4			4	0		4						4	
Ray Harris	4			2	2	2	1		1				4	
Jennifer Hilborne	2			2				1		1			2	
Other Banders	2			2			1		1				2	
Total Banders	171	17	0	178	20	5	99	54	25	12	2	1	198	
Cross Trail	2	11	5	5	13	5	6	4		3			18	
Members of the Public			1	1				1					1	
Total	173	28	6	184	33	10	105	59	25	15	2	1	217	
Other Banders:	Andrew Holder 1, Brian Exton 1													

Note: For age at recapture, birds banded as adults are assumed to have been one year old when banded.
 In some cases they will have been older.
 • Some "Distance Moved" estimated.
 * Not all distances calculated

Shonna McLeod's experience

One box of TRES on the central part of my Trail hatched 4 healthy babies –all banded. On next check of the box, 2 babies were dead and the remaining ones were making weird sounds (hungry cries I believe) – I removed the remaining babies and put them in another box containing babies of comparable size. A check a week later showed both babies were accepted by the surrogate parents and fed as their own. All fledged (original and adopted babies) successfully. This is the second time I have tried this successfully.

Detailed Reports of CANM Monitors 2011.

Two sections:

First and second broods of MOBL; TRES results: this and following 2 pages;

Banding, Other Nesters, Trail and Box information, Causes of nest failure: the following 4 pages.

Detailed Report 2011 Monitors	MOBL 1st Broods					MOBL 2nd Broods					Tree Swallows						
	Qdr	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest- lings	Fledg- lings	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest- lings	Fledg- lings	Total MOBL	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest- lings	Fledg- lings
Darrel Bender 2011 From Westbrook to Cochrane	NW	5	5	23	20	17	0	0	0	0	0	17	22	22	120	104	89
Jack and Karen Borno 2011 Sprngbk Rd W of Hwy 22, Rdg Rd N to #1	SW	11	9	47	47	47	2	1	8	5	5	52	36	34	198	176	174
Lenora Brown 2011 W. of Millarville: 272-352 St.; 322-402 Ave etc.	SW	12	9	48	40	31	0	0	0	0	0	31	31	29	173	163	162
Charlotte and George Clarke 2011 1208 Dr. W/232, St. N Turner Valley	SW	6	5	21	21	21	0	0	0	0	0	21	10	10	54	54	54
Don Conrad 2011 Longview area S to Chain Lakes & W of Nanton	SW	67	60	374	313	306	9	8	38	31	31	337	179	176	1,050	950	944
Don Crane 2011 NW Dogpound	NW	14	7	69	55	42	0	0	0	0	0	42	42	31	206	176	171
Nancy Davis 2011 Sibbald Creek Trail	SW	21	19	115	97	86	0	0	0	0	0	86	56	52	315	289	194
Foxdale Farm (with Colleen Rittwage)	NW	3	2	16	10	7	0	0	0	0	0	7	11	10	68	66	57
Alexander de Boer 2011 Mr. Butters ranch near Benchlands	NW	4	4	23	21	21	2	2	10	10	9	30	11	10	63	48	45
Bob Derbowka 2011 Sundre Loop	NW	28	28	167	161	161	0	0	0	0	0	161	27	26	174	166	166
Country Hills Golf Course-Calgary	NW												32	28	189	168	157
Jean Dunn 2011 Beaverdam Creek	NW	20	14	98	81	53	2	1	6	5	5	58	34	29	186	169	156
Brian Exton 2011 (with Melanie Rathburn) Plummer's Rd, Priddis Valley Rd	SW	24	24	140	108	107	3	3	10	5	4	111	34	34	208	164	141
Ken and Linda Fry 2011 (with M Rathburn) Priddis store - South and West	SW	25	21	137	120	111	0	0	0	0	0	111	69	52	328	313	282
Terry Galvon 2011 SW Turner Valley	SW	12	9	59	48	32	0	0	0	0	0	32	29	26	153	137	122
Matt Ginn 2011 Jumpingpound West	SW	29	20	154	106	95	1	1	6	4	4	99	45	40	279	238	214
Walt Gianville 2011 E. of Water Valley	NW	29	27	148	142	124	11	1	5	5	5	129	39	37	229	220	144
Walter and Doreen Gruszecki 2011 Dewinton Gun Club	SW	2	1	6	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	28	26	146	138	132
Diana Halladay 2011 Several routes north of Sundre	NW	40	40	209	171	143	8	8	40	37	30	173	126	126	732	641	556
Ray Harris 2011 Beaver and Heath Creeks, Maycroft	SW	23	18	84	81	77	0	0	0	0	0	77	45	40	214	137	137
Jennifer Hilborne 2011 Millarville	SW	17	15	104	90	84	0	0	0	0	0	84	28	27	166	141	138
Andrew and Mavis Holder 2011 22X east of Priddis	SW	7	7	39	34	34	0	0	0	0	0	34	27	25	154	140	138
Canmore Golf Course	SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	9	78	49	42

A Mystery from Shonna McLeod

A second box with an unsolvable mystery involves a successful second nester. The second brood should have fledged on my last trip to the box but when I opened it to clean, it had 4 babies inside, one smaller one with a band I identified as a second brood baby and 3 additional larger babies which I then banded. This would leave only 2 alternatives – either the original bands fell off [because of size variation not likely (no sign of bands in the box)] or, someone put the older babies in the box for some reason. I will never know and have reported this to my Master Bander Grabame and to Don for their comments.

A correction: The editor misfiled Mike Truch's stats which were sent in in August. Culpa mea! Mike had 123 MOBL fledglings, 329 TRES fledglings, 7 adult and 142 MOBL young banded. He monitors Meridian Road and Highway 533 in the SW. Totals are included on page 1, but not in above tables.

Detailed Report 2011	MOBL 1st Broods					MOBL 2nd Broods					Tree Swallows						
	Monitors	Qdr	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings	Fledg-lings	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings	Fledg-lings	Total MOBL	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings
Ray and Jean Hummel 2011 Drumheller valley	NE	17	17	85	85	85	1	1	5	5	5	90	58	42	210	210	210
Mike and Mary Jane Hunter 2011 Royalties, Longview, Springbank	SW	29	24	169	144	120	3	2	13	12	8	128	59	49	350	282	272
Cindy and Tim Jacob 2011 224/274 Old George Loades trail	SW	11	11	66	53	51	0	0	0	0	0	51	19	19	107	92	86
Marijke & Wim Jalink 2011 Millarville West - 5km and NW(2 trails)	SW	20	16	115	89	80	4	3	20	11	10	90	44	37	279	224	198
Vivian Johnson 2011 W of Turner Valley Hiway 546	SW	20	18	98	93	87	0	0	0	0	0	87	27	26	136	131	130
Jean Kaiser 2011 35 m. w. of Innisfail	NW	2	2	15	14	14	2	2	9	8	8	22	5	5	35	35	35
Sue and Kaya Konopnicki 2011 Redwood Meadows NE	SW	11	11	66	46	46	1	1	4	0	0	46	21	20	110	103	102
Ted Koziel 2011 Rockyford and Redland	NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	23	156	145	127
Orville Lammie & J.D. Waddell 2011 Hy 1A, Beaspre Ck Rd, Hy 940, RR60	NW	27	24	150	130	113	1	1	5	4	4	117	47	44	283	262	233
Dianne Leonhardt 2011 192 St from 22X south to 254 Ave	SW	13	11	74	59	57	0	0	0	0	0	57	27	24	155	134	123
D Leonhardt & Jr Forest Wardens 2011 Red Deer Lake to Millarville Church	SW	12	10	68	61	55	1	0	2	0	0	55	70	66	408	345	327
Susanne Maidment 2011 Jumping Pound South, west of 22, south of 244	SW	26	26	153	142	139	2	1	9	5	5	144	67	65	406	377	353
Peter Maksymiw 2011 SW Turner Valley, 486 Ave/172 St/482 St	SW	4	3	17	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	15	15	85	78	71
Johanna McCool 2011 Dogpound	NW	6	5	40	36	36	1	1	4	4	4	40	21	21	126	126	126
Gary McGonigle 2011 Turner Valley Golf Course	SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	26	163	147	143
Shonna McLeod 2011 Leighton Centre	SW	30	30	161	154	154	2	2	10	10	9	163	55	50	315	232	213
P Mitchell & E Kanegawa 2011 Big Hill Springs area	NW	5	5	24	22	22	0	0	0	0	0	22	28	24	167	148	128
Jean & Wayne Moore 2011 Hwy 22 - Westbrook to Water Valley	NW	4	4	22	22	22	0	0	0	0	0	22	12	9	60	48	48
Deborah Nichol and Ian Dowdell 2011 101 St., 17th Ave SW, Pinebrook GC, Edenbrook	SW	4	3	23	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	18	15	11	78	59	58
Deborah Nichol and Ian Dowdell 2011 Horse Creek Road T 280 to T 292	NW	9	7	46	40	36	3	2	9	7	3	39	16	7	65	27	27
Isabelle Orr & Susie Spenst 2011 West of Airdrie	NW	10	9	52	41	41	1	1	4	4	4	45	56	56	350	318	317
Ei Peterson 2011 HWY 541 w. of Longview	SW	54	48	298	274	252	3	2	16	11	11	263	60	59	347	338	332
Duncan and Nancy Rand 2011 around Priddis and East of Black Diamond	SW	22	18	95	87	87	1	1	5	5	5	92	34	34	187	173	173

Another observation from Shonna McLeod:

I have never been able to reconcile in my mind the difference between Vandalism and Predation. Predation cannot usually be verified and therefore, in my mind would be Vandalism either man-made or animal related. I had several boxes "vandalized" this year (2 boxes twice in a week's check). In all cases, the bottoms had either been pushed out (in this case the nest and nestlings/eggs were on the ground not destroyed or bottoms pushed up and nests and occupants squashed to death.

Don Conrad:

Five boxes at the west end of his Longview trail were vandalized by a bear – with claw marks as evidence. Another 9 boxes had their lids removed, but Don repaired them in time for TRES to use successfully.

Bill Taylor:

On my Chapman Ranch trail (north of Millarville), I noticed claw marks on some aspens in the spring. When I checked with the landowner, he confirmed that a bear had taken down one of his calves or cows about 100 yards from the building on the ranch the previous fall! And the Cartwrights on my D ranch trail reported seeing two Grizzlies near their house.

Detailed Report 2011

Monitors	Qdr	MOBL 1st Broods					MOBL 2nd Broods					Total MOBL	Tree Swallows				
		Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings	Fledg-lings	Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings	Fledg-lings		Att'pts	Nests	Eggs	Nest-lings	Fledg-lings
Ron Reist 2011 E. of Olds	NE	71	57	427	349	330	13	9	63	45	39	369	267	241	1,690	1,506	1,440
Mike Risely 2011 S of DeWinton & 274 Ave. betw Meridian St & 16 S	SW	6	6	35	33	33	0	0	0	0	0	33	37	37	178	170	170
Doug Robertson/Carolyn Troy 2011 338 Ave. W. of Hwy. 22 & 256 Street	SW	28	26	150	132	130	0	0	0	0	0	130	36	29	155	145	141
Myrna and Jerry Sentes 2011 Hwy 22 N from 576 to Twp 280; twp 272	NW	7	3	34	27	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	38	35	208	193	184
Heather Simonds 2011 Glenbow Provincial Park	NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	15	100	89	80
Gwen Simpson 2011 Cochrane North & East	NW	3	3	17	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	9	8	48	41	37
Verna Smith and Lynda Alderman 2011 Bottrel	NW	19	19	90	81	69	0	0	0	0	0	69	54	42	304	280	262
Dick Stauffer 2011 SW. of Olds	NW	25	21	143	119	95	2	2	10	10	10	105	172	165	991	860	836
Les Stegenga 2011 NE and NW of Cochrane	NW	24	24	121	112	109	0	0	0	0	0	109	39	39	220	185	185
Don, & Andrew Stiles 2011 East Didsbury	NE	16	14	88	68	66	3	3	15	11	11	77	67	62	413	379	356
Red Deer Lake	SW	8	7	43	39	34	1	1	4	4	3	37	23	18	143	101	95
Bill Taylor 2011 7 trails DeWinton to Turner Valley	SW	25	22	134	118	111	1	1	5	5	5	116	100	84	601	475	344
1 trail GD Ranch N of Water Valley	NW	1	0	6	6	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	2	2	12	11	11
1 trail D ranch SW of Longview	SW	1	1	6	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	2	12	12	12
Ed Tischler 2011 Cremona to Water Valley	NW	16	15	76	66	64	2	2	9	8	8	72	25	20	147	119	103
Barry Trakalo & Joan Bruce 2011 Red Deer Lake to Millarville Race Track	SW	32	31	180	156	154	3	2	16	8	7	161	72	66	407	374	340
Anne & Bryne Weerstra 2011 Jamieson Road	NW	14	13	76	62	62	0	0	0	0	0	62	35	29	199	172	163
Donna Wieckowski 2011 North Dogpound: h766t284-r35t292	NW	6	4	33	22	21	1	0	5	0	0	21	20	19	125	108	101
Ray and Agnes Woods 2011 E. of Elkton	NW	28	28	156	141	140	5	3	21	13	9	149	62	57	401	353	337
		1,082	955	5,837	5,035	4,669	96	68	391	292	261	4,930	2,890	2,630	16,581	14,595	13,582

Nancy Davis:

When I cleaned a nest that had had MOBL in to start the season, I found a TRES nest on top of the MOBL nest. However, there were no remnants of MOBL sandwiched between the stack of nests. After watching a weasel poking his nose in holes in nearby trees looking for nestlings, I suspect he might have pulled out the young MOBL.

Jean Dunn:

Monitoring was difficult one time this year, as I became stuck in mud!

Matt Ginn:

14 nests were predated as the boxes were either bottomed out or the top was removed.

Detailed Report 2011

Monitors

	Banding			Other Nestors			& Boxes			Causes of		
	MOB L Adlts	MOBL Yng	TRES Adlts	TRES Yng	HOSP	HOWR	Other	Total Boxes	Km of Trail	Emty	Rd.trip	Nest Failure
Darrel Bender 2011 From Westbrook to Cochrane	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	36	34	5	65	
Jack and Karen Borno 2011 Sprngbk Rd W of Hwy 22;Rdg Rd N to #1	4	37	0	0	0	1	1	44	10	2	162	
Lenora Brown 2011 W. of Millarville: 272-352 St., 322-402 Ave etc.	0	20	6	118	0	1	0	116		0		Vandalism, Bear, predation
Charlotte and George Clarke 2011 1208 Dr W/232 St N Turner Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	5	4		
Don Conrad 2011 Longview area S to Chain Lakes & W of Nanton	27	306	0	0	1	19	0	252	47	5	280	weather, bear, abandoned
Don Crane 2011 NW Dogpound	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	67	11	3	107	wrens
Nancy Davis 2011 Sibbald Creek Trail	7	72	0	0	0	0	5	80	12	2	36	squirrels; weasel?; TRES
Foxdale Farm (with Colleen Rittwage)	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	16	1	0	32	raccoones; single parent
Alexander de Boer 2011 Mr. Butters ranch near Benchlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	3	2	9	Adult swallow deaths - abandon
Bob Derbowka 2011 Sundre Loop	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	71	52	16	220	vandalism 5
Country Hills Golf Course-Calgary								76	?	?	?	157 TRES from 76 boxes
Jean Dunn 2011 Beaverdam Creek	0	0	0	0	1	6	2	65	15	5	110	
Brian Exton 2011(with Melanie Rathburn) Plummer's Rd, Priddis Valley Rd	14	46	0	0	0	2	1	56	17	0	77	ants;red squirrel;
Ken and Linda Fry 2011(with M Rathburn) Priddis store - South and West	13	41	0	0	0	5	0	95	42	2	122	animal vandals
Terry Galvon 2011 SW Turner Valley	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	42	7	2	183	2 predation; 3 vandalism
Matt Ginn 2011 Jumpingpound West	11	50	13	28	0	1	0	77	15	10	?	predation - 14
Walt Gianville 2011 E. of Water Valley	0	31	0	0	1	2	0	71	30	4	144	raccoons - 15 predations
Walter and Doreen Gruszecki 2011 Dewinton Gun Club	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	40	3	8	75	Ants
Diana Halladay 2011 Several routes north of Sundre	0	0	0	0	1	8	2	174	200	5	240	blowflies, abandoned, HOWR, m
Ray Harris 2011 Beaver and Heath Creeks, Maycroft	6	37	13	135	0	4	0	136	29	7	200	weather 10
Jennifer Hilborne 2011 Millarville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	16	4	101	construction

Diana Halladay:

At least one nest was unsuccessful due to the spraying for weeds by the local authorities.

Jennifer Hilborne:

Heavy equipment putting down and spreading gravel caused one nest to fail.

Bill Taylor:

Two boxes with probable nesters were removed and placed on the ground in order for a new fence to be installed. I caught the construction crew in the act, and they assured me that they had carefully placed the boxes out of harm's way. Not so! One was on the ground, one in a shrub. Later they screwed the boxes back onto the new fence (but on the inside where I could not easily monitor them. No successful nests.

The above comments point out that as an organization we should be contacting the appropriate authorities in the municipalities or counties to recommend more ecology-conscious behaviours.

Detailed Report 2011

Monitors

	Banding			Other Nestors			& Boxes			Causes of	
	MOB L Adlts	MOBL Yng	TRES Adlts	TRES Yng	HOSP	HOWR	Other	Total Boxes	Km of Trail	Emty	Rd.trip Nest Failure
Andrew and Mavis Holder 2011											
22X east of Priddis	1	24	12	17	0	2	1	38	21	1	250 weather; vandalism
Canmore Golf Course	0	0	4	15	0	0	2	24	2	6	4 Predation and water sprinklers!
Ray and Jean Hummel 2011											
Drumheller valley	0	0	0	0	0	12	12	122 ?		25	120 Mice=8
Mike and Mary Jane Hunter 2011											
Royalties, Longview, Springbank	8	130	26	174	1	2	3	92	21	8	240 predation
Cindy and Tim Jacob 2011											
224/274 Old George Loades trail	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	30 ?		0 ?	unknown cause
Marijke & Wim Jalink 2011											
Millarville West - 5km and NW(2 trails)	6	91	17	208	0	7	0	77	11	9	100 cows, construction
Vivian Johnson 2011											
W of Turner Valley Hiway 546	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	53	14	5	29
Jean Kaiser 2011											
35 m. w. of Innisfail	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	10	3	2	6
Sue and Kaya Konopnicki 2011											
Redwood Meadows NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	20	0	65 weather
Ted Koziel 2011											
Rockyford and Redland	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	30	11	5	220 predation, ants, unknown
Orville Lammie & J.D. Waddell 2011											
H'y 1A;Beaupre Ck Rd;H'y 940;RR60	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	74	48	1	80 predation
Dianne Leonhardt 2011											
192 St from 22X south to 254 Ave	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	10	0	100 weather; predation
D Leonhardt & Jr Forest Wardens 2011											
Red Deer Lake to Millarville Church	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	82	22	2	105 weather;ants; elk rubbing
Susanne Maidment 2011											
Jumping Pound South, west of 22, south of 244	7	99	21	108	0	0	2	87	16	1	100 weather; squirrel nests
Peter Maksymiw 2011											
SW Turner Valley; 466 Ave/172 St/482 St	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	19	5	1	15 vandalism
Johanna McCool 2011											
Dogpound	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	36	11	2	112 weather; structural failure
Gary McGonigle 2011											
Turner Valley Golf Course	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	50 ?		17 ?	predation, vandalism
Shonna McLeod 2011											
Leighton Centre	14	163	53	213	2	3	0	77	50	0	100 weather 3, vandalism 9, other 2
P Mitchell & E Kanegawa 2011											
Big Hill Springs area	0	12	9	75	0	2	0	41	60	7	122 weather; predation
Hwy 22 - Westbrook to Water Valley	1	8	3	35	0	1	1	21	36	2	180 predation; vandalism
Jean & Wayne Moore 2011											
101 St., 17th Ave SW; Pinebrook GC; Edenbrook C	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	23	6	4	25 possible weasel; w

Andrew and Mavis Holder:

We have taken over monitoring nest-boxes put up by the Canmore Golf course. It is good TRES habitat, but has unique challenges: at a critical time of the season it became apparent the two of the boxes were in direct line of fire for the sprinkler system which was disastrous for the occupants. Several nests were abandoned and we will attempt to try to understand why this should be so. We are reliably informed that the course uses only Audubon standard fertilizer, and grooming methods for the course, so that should not be a factor. We wonder if anybody else has considered working with local golf courses in the area, such as Priddis and Water Valley?

(Gary McGonigle does work with the Turner Valley Golf course.) A good idea for anyone looking for a new trail!

Detailed Report 2011

Monitors

	Banding			Other Nestors			& Boxes			Causes of		
	MOB L Adlts	MOBL Yng	TRES Adlts	TRES Yng	HOSP	HOWR	Other	Total Boxes	Km of Trail	Emty	Rd.trip	Nest Failure
Deborah Nichol and Ian Dowdell 2011 Horse Creek Road T 280 to T 292	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	32	25	5	130	predation; weather; vandalism
Isabelle Orr & Susie Spenst 2011 West of Airdrie	3	45	35	130	0	0	0	90	25	14	60	construction
El Peterson 2011 HWY 541 w. of Longview	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	133	30	21	220	
Duncan and Nancy Rand 2011 around Priddis and East of Black Diamond	0	80	0	0	1	1	0	84	60	31	100	abandonment and unknown
Ron Reist 2011 E. of Olds	32	369	148	252	6	12	1	412	200	75	250	4 weather, 4 construction, 3 vanc
Mike Risely 2011 S of DeWinton & 274 Ave, betw Meridian St & 16 S	1	11	5	28	0	0	0	52	14	0	20	old, lost
Doug Robertson/Carolyn Troy 2011 338 Ave. W. of Hwy. 22 & 256 Street	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	59	20	0	40	
Myrna and Jerry Sentes 2011 Hwy 22 N from 576 to Twp 280; twp 272	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	29	8	71	raccoons; abandonment
Heather Simonds 2011 Glenbow Provincial Park	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	42				estimated totals
Gwen Simpson 2011 Cochrane North & East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	8	0	70	family illness prevented TRES cc
Verna Smith and Lynda Alderman 2011 Bottrel	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	98	20	18	70	blowfly
Dick Stauffer 2011 SW. of Olds	8	98	42	454	7	5	0	266	120	25 ?		weather
Les Stegenga 2011 NE and NW of Cochrane	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	69	61	6	120	weather; vandalism
Don, & Andrew Stiles 2011 East Didsbury	5	45	19	165	7	1	1	91	78	9	260	deermouse, vandalism
Bill Taylor 2011 Red Deer Lake	1	41	16	51	3	3	0	33	24	1	56	porcupine
Ed Tischer 2011 7 trails DeWinton to Turner Valley	12	118	45	438	0	4	0	150	31	21	160	weasel 8, abandoned 6
Barry Trakalo & Joan Bruce 2011 1 trail GD Ranch N of Water Valley	2	0	2	6	0	0	0	3	1	0	190	weather, cows.
Ed Tischer 2011 1 trail D ranch SW of Longview	0	6	2	12	0	0	0	3	1	0	206	
Ed Tischer 2011 Cremona to Water Valley	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	45	14	4	150	6 HOWR fledged
Barry Trakalo & Joan Bruce 2011 Red Deer Lake to Millarville Race Track	2	56	24	75	0	4	2	106	27	2	100	
Anne & Bryne Weerstra 2011 Jamieson Road	6	38	19	44	0	8	5	73	16	13	31	squirrel, chickadees, Wreps . .

Duncan and Nancy Rand: *We had five 9 day old MOBL babies dead of no apparent reason – and an adult female TRES was dead in the next box! Mystery!*

Don Stiles: *One box had a hole chewed out in the back and the eggs (or young) were gone – believed due to a porcupine.*

Detailed Report 2011

Monitors

	Banding			Other Nestors			Boxes		Causes of			
	MOB L Adlts	MOBL Yng	TRES Adlts	TRES Yng	HOSP	HOWR	Other	Total Boxes	Km of Trail	Emty	Rd.trip	Nest Failure
Donna Wieckowski 2011												
North Dogpound: h766:1284-rr351292	2	21	12	36	0	0	0	26	14	0	136	blowfly;construction;abandonmer
Ray and Agnes Woods 2011												
E. of Elkton	5	0	0	0	1	3	0	92	77	3	235	other
Totals	199	2,105	546	2,817	42	148	45	4,724	1,827	444	6,912	

Wim and Marijke Jalink:

It was a strange year again. Late season with a long harsh winter, April with enormous amounts of snow followed by a very wet May. I think it's better the birds start late and go on uninterrupted, than starting early and getting interrupted by snowstorms. The funniest encounter this year was a Red Squirrel which defended its real estate with jumps-up, spitting noises and flashing orange teeth. I found it interesting that this forest creature was living along pasture far from woods...maybe it was used as a summer cabin?

Dianne Leonhardt:

One Tree Swallow nest had 12 eggs, 10 of which hatched and fledged! 4 boxes on the Junior Forest Wardens trail (from Red Deer Lake to Millarville Church) failed likely due to elk rubbing the boxes off (tracks nearby.)