





Biodiversity Research at LUREC



Edgar Perez Institute of Environmental Sustainability Loyola University Chicago



Loyola University Chicago Retreat & Ecology Campus, 2011



SUMMER 2012

Breeding Bird Census

OBJECTIVES

Our primary research objective was to get as much detailed information on the avian community structure as time allowed. We specifically wanted to:

- 1) determine what species could be found at LUREC (species richness);
- 2) identify which species were using the campus as a breeding site;
- 3) establish how many of each species were breeding;
- 4) map their breeding territory if possible so as to identify territory distribution;

OBJECTIVES

- 5) discover the habitat preferences of the breeding birds;
- 6) identify what vegetative structure or nest selection sites they were using; and
- 7) get an estimate on the bird's relative abundance.

Our goal of the study was to obtain critical baseline data to aid in evaluating future assessment and monitoring of the wetland and woodland restoration projects.

METHODOLOGY



Each plot was randomly visited on separate days normally between 6:00am and 10:00am. Each was visited at least 4-6 times during the census. Transects counts, spotmapping and nest searches'.

RESULTS

Avian Species Structure at Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus During the 2012 Summer Breeding Season

> Edgar R. Perez and Stephen F. Mitten Institute of Environmental Sustainability Loyola University Chicago



Results published in paper

Avian Species Structure at Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus During the 2012 Summer Breeding Season 0

Edgar R. Perez and Stephen F. Mitten Loyola University Chicago

Abstract:

We undertook a breading cannot of the axian community residing on the 98 acre (39.7 hacture) property of Loyola University Raturat and Ecology Campus (LUREC) over a two mooth period (Mky 12-July 18) in the summar of 2012. Tarritory-got mapping unas the primary method used, supplemented by timed count, opportunitic trivial sightings and next searches. Sixty-nine species wave documented: forty species wave found breeding or holding territories on the campus with an additional treaty-mine species detected as flyowars or occasional visitor. One hundhed and thirty-five nexts of thirty-one species wave documented: forty species wave found breeding or holding territories on the campus with an additional treaty-mine species detected as flyowars or occasional visitor. One hundhed and thirty-five nexts of thirty-one species wave found. Frequency of encounter and relative shundhed indices wave also calculated. The most frequently encountered species wave the Gray Catholds and Northern Cardinal. The Red-winged Blackbird was the single most shundhart species in terms of total number of individues sear; howaver, Gray Catholds, American Robins, Northern Cardinal, Stack-capped Chickades, American Robin had the most number of breeding territories. Habitat structure and food availability should both be considered important factors in future wethan due voodland restoration. Some recommendations are provided.



Sparrows Nests and Territories

	•		
v	Chipping	sparrow	nests

Eastern Towhee nest



0

Song Sparrow nests

Eastern Towhee Territory

Field Sparrow Territory

Chipping Sparrow Territory

Song Sparrow Territory

SUMMER 2013

LUREC TREES PROJECT

One main purpose of the survey was to identify and tag all the trees at LUREC (a plant with a DBH of 4 inches or higher was considered a tree), in an effort to provide a description of the woodland forest tree composition. In addition, the surveyors were also required to take the geographical position of the trees, so that the data could be entered into the Loyola University GIS database

METHODOLOGY

The coordinates, or the geographical position of one thousand five hundred and twenty-two trees (1,522) of the four thousand onehundred and fifty-six (4,156) trees documented on campus were not taken, and therefore, were not represented on the LUREC trees map. So I set out to document them.



Loyola University Chicago Retreat & Ecology Campus



PERCENTAGE OF TREES FOUND DEAD

Common Name	Number	Number Dead	Percentage (%)
	Observed		
Black Cherry	300	24	8
American Elm	61	17	27.87
Bur Oak	20	2	10
Yellow-bud	59	1	1.69
Hickory			
White Ash	5	1	20
Black Walnut	5	1	20
Cottonwood	3	1	33.3
Jack Pine	10	1	10
Silver Maple	7	1	14
Apple	2	1	50
White Oak	86	6	5.8



Spot-mapping of back of wetland reveals site fidelity by species from previous year





Species Summary							
Nest Sites	All Sites						
Year	2013						
Species	Total # of nest attempts	First egg date	Total # of eggs	Total # of nestlings	Total # of fledglings	Nest attempts with at least one fledgling	Nesting success rate
Blue Jay	1	5/12/2013	4	4	4	1	100.00%
Tree Swallow	1	6/12/2013	4	3	3	1	100.00%
Black-capped Chickadee	1	6/3/2013	5	5	5	1	100.00%
House Wren	2	5/19/2013	9	9	9	2	100.00%
Eastern Bluebird	2	5/25/2013	7	6	6	2	100.00%
American Robin	1	5/9/2013	3	3	3	1	100.00%
Gray Catbird	1	5/28/2013	4	4	4	1	100.00%
Brown Thrasher	1	6/3/2013	1	1	1	1	100.00%
Red-winged Blackbird	2	6/18/2013	6	0	0	0	0.00%

SPECIES SUMMARY FOR NESTS MONITORED AT LUREC

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Yea	ir[015		5	opecies	H	mina	can	Kobi	N			-	_
1.	NEST SITE	2. SITE DESCRIPTION (see key on back)												
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Lon	gitude (deci	mal degre	es; ex7	6.45448)	3		Flor	Human	modified	g K	lo C	1 herd	(rest)	KOOKS
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3. B	3. BREEDING DATA If eggs or young are present but not countab							" for unkno	wn.					
*	DATE &	TIME	н	OST SPEC	IES	STA	TUS & AC		DDES	COW	BIRD ACT	IVITY	MOR	EINFO
/sit	Month / Day (1-12) /(1-31)	Time (am/pm)	Eggs	Live Young	Dead Young	Nest Status	Adult Status	Young Status	Mgmt. Activity	Eggs	Live Young	Dead Young	Obs.	Notes
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2	5/17	3:48	2	0	0	Cn	00	no	ho	m	0	0	FP	
3	5/19	2:120	3	D	0	Ch	Ga	IAD	Ino	0	0	n	FP	
4	5/21	4:30	3	0	0	PN	09	Mo	110	D	0	B	FP	178
5	5'23	5:B	1	2	Õ	cn	Va	hy	no	n	0	0	FP	
6	5/25	2:2%	0	3	0	Cn	Vo	ny	np	D	õ	0	EP	
7	5129	5:12 m	0	3	0	Cn	Va	DV	nD	Õ	0	O	FP	
8	5131	5:27 m	0	3	0	ch	Va	fv	na	0	0	0	EP	
9	6'03	4:53	0	3	D	in	Va	fy	nn	0	0	D	EP	
10	6'05	5:52	. 0	2	17	(m	Va	R	no	0	D	6	FP	
4. NI	STING A	TTEMPT	SUM	MARY	Fill In Info	ormation fo	HOST SPE	CIES below	after the n	resting atter	npt is com	plete.		
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NEST	FATE: PNC	Sume	all	Jurvi	Jed		-46				elen .			

GPS MAPPING OF THE THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND SQUIRREL (*ICTIDOMYSS TRIDECEMLINEATUS*) ASOCIAL COLONY AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY RETREAT AND ECOLOGY CAMPUS

 We documented the expansion of the Thirteen-lined ground squirrel (Ictidomyss tridecemlineatus) across the front portion of the Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus (LUREC) during the summer of 2013 by GPS mapping the locations of their burrow entrances noting clusters of holes over time and recording their runways from hole to hole. We mapped 235 holes as of July 20, and estimated the number of ground squirrels at around 47 individuals.







MOTH/BUTTERFLY DATA AND IDENTIFICATION





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American Ear American Idia Moth (Amphipoea americalis) 1.JPG americana) 4.JPG



Armyworn Moth (Mythimna unipuncta) 6.JPG



(Atteva aurea)

1.JPG

Moth (Idia

Aster Borer Moth

(Papaipema

impecuniosa)

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webworm Moth (Atteva aurea) 3.JPG

American Idia

Moth (Idia

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Aster Borer Moth

(Papaipema

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Ailanthus webworm Moth (Atteva aurea) 4.JPG

American Idia

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American Idia

Moth (Idia

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Aster Borer Moth

(Papaipema

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Ailanthus webworm Moth (Atteva aurea) 6.JPG



webworm Moth





Armyworn Moth Armyworn Moth (Mythimna

(Mythimna unipuncta) 1.JPG unipuncta) 2.JPG

Aster Borer Moth Aster Borer Moth (Papaipema (Papaipema impecuniosa) impecuniosa) 5.JPG



Black Swallowtail (Papilio polyxenes) 7.JPG







American Ear Moth (Amphipoea americana) 2.JPG



Armyworn Moth (Mythimna unipuncta) 4.JPG

(Mythimna unipuncta) 5.JPG

Armyworn Moth

American Ear

Moth

(Amphipoea

americana) 3.JPG



Black rimmed Prominent (Pheosia rimosa) 3.JPG



Black Swallowtail (Papilio polyxenes) 1.JPG



Black Swallowtail (Papilio polyxenes) 11.JPG





Black Swallowtail Black Swallowtail (Papilio polyxenes) 2.JPG

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Black Swallowtail (Papilio polyxenes) 13.JPG



Black Swallowtail (Papilio es) 4.JPG

Bristly 24.JPG



Black Swallowtail (Papilio

polyxenes) 5.JPG



Bristly Cutworm Moth (Lacinipolia renigera) 1.JPG



(Papilio polyxenes) 6.JPG





Bristly Cutworm Moth (Lacinipolia renigera) 2.JPG



Bristly Cutworm Moth (Lacinipolia









polyxenes) 8.JPG



Bristly Cutworm Moth (Lacinipolia renigera) 5.JPG

(Papilio



Moth (Lacinipolia

renigera) 9.JPG











Bristly Cutworm







Ailanthus

webworm Moth

(Atteva aurea)

8.JPG

Armyworn Moth

(Mythimna

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Prominent (Pheosia rimosa) 1.JPG

Black rimmed Prominent (Pheosia rimosa) 2.JPG

Black Swallowtail

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1	Scientific name	Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Genus	Species	Date	Location	Notes	
2	Ancyloxypha numitor	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Ancyloxypha	A. numitor	Summer 2012	fen		
3	Achalarus lyciades	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Achalarus	A. lyciades	Sept 13 2013	Front Flower bed		
4	Epargyreus clarus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Epargyreus	E. clarus	Summer 2012, 2013	fen		_
5	Erynnis sp	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Erynnis	E. sp.	Summer 2012	fen		
6	Hylephila phyleus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Hylephila	H. phyleus	Summer 2012	Front yard		
7	Poanes massasoit	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Poanes	P. massasoit	Summer 2012	Flower bed		
8	Pholisora catullus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Pholisora	P. catullus	Summer 2012	fen		
9	Polites mystic	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Polites	P. mystic	Summer 2012	Large Pond		_
10	Pyrgus communis	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Hesperiidae	Pyrgus	P. communis	Summer 2012	fen		_
11	Panilia naluvanas	Animalia	Arthropodo	Incosto	Lonidontoro	Papilianidaa	Papilia	P. polyworoc	Summor 2012 2012	Flowr bod		_
12	Papilio polyxenes	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Papilionidae	Papilio	P. polyxenes Summer 2012 2013		Flower bed		
14	Papilio troilus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Papilionidae	Papilio	P troilus	Sent 1 2012, 2013	small trout ponds		
15			, a chi ope da	mocota	Lepidoptera	- apinoniaae	- apino		000000000000000000000000000000000000000	sindir trout points		
16	Colias philodice	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Pieridae	Colias	C. philodice	Summer 2012, 2013	Large Pond		
17	Colias eurytheme	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Pieridae	Colias	C. eurytheme	Summer 2012, 2013	Prairie		
18	Pieris rapae	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Pieridae	Pieris	P. rapae	Summer 2012, 2013	fen		
19												
20	Cupido comyntas	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Lycaenidae	Cupido	C. comyntas	Sept 1 2012	large pond		
21	Celastrina neglecta	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Lycaenidae	Celastrina	C. neglecta	Summer 2012, 2013	Front yard		_
22	Satyrium sp	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Lycaenidae	Satyrium	Satyrium sp	Summer 2012, 2013	fen		_
23												_
24	Boloria bellona Boloria coloro	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Boloria	B. bellona	Summer 2012	Back yard		_
25	Doiorid selene	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Corevenis	D. seiene	Summer 2012	North of Large Pond		_
20	Danaus nlexinnus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Danaus	D plexinpus	Summer 2012 2013	Common		
28	Euptoieta claudia	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Euptoieta	E. claudia	Sept 22 2013	Large Pond		
29	Limenitis archippus	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Limenitis	L. archippus	Aug 12 2013	Back vard		
30	Limenitis artemis	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Limenitis	L. artemis	July 22 2013	Prairie		
31	Limenitis artemis astyanax	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Limenitis	L. artemis astyanax	July 27 2013	Front yard		
32	Nymphalis antiopa	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Nymphalis	N. antiopa	Sept 15 2012 summer 2013	Front yard		
33	Phyciodes tharos	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Phyciodes	P. tharos	Summer 2012, 2013	Challenge Course		
34	Polygonia comma	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Polygonia	P. comma	Summer 2012, 2013	Large Pond		
35	Satyrodes eurydice	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Satyrodes	S. eurydice	Summer 2012	Back yard		
36	Speyeria cybele	Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Lepidoptera	Nymphalidae	Speyeria	S. cybele	Summer 2012	Shrubland		
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Overseen by Fr. Stephen

LUREC MIGRATORY BIRD/ BUTTERFLY LANDSCAPE PROJECT

[Habitat loss is the leading cause of decline in resident and migratory species around the world. The introduction of native plant species in degraded areas is essential for increasing biodiversity. The landscape project focuses on establishing structured linear forests by planting native species in the immediate vicinity of the ponds, and the upland oak patch in the back of the main building.]

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Bird Counts



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View and Explore Data



Hotspot Explorer BETA

Discover the best places for birding nearby or around the world.



Range and Point Maps

Explore interactive range maps by species or subspecies — zoom in for details

ar Apr May Jun Jul Aug S

<u>Bar Charts</u>

Find out what birds to expect throughout the

Your Totals

Track your totals and compare with other eBirders.

Yard Totals

How many species and checklists have you submitted for your yard?

Patch Totals

How many have you submitted for your favorite birding patches?

Top 100

Compare with the top eBirders in your region.

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1734	Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis	2	26-Oct-13	8:30-9:30am	aro	ound pond and edge of Oak for	rest				
1735	Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	750	26-Oct-13	8:30-9:30am	aro	ound pond and edge of Oak for	rest				
1736	House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	5	26-Oct-13	8:30-9:30am	aro	ound pond and edge of Oak for	rest				
1737	American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	4	26-Oct-13	8:30-9:30am	aro	ound pond and edge of Oak for	rest				
1738	Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps	1	2-Nov-13	11:00am	por	nd					
1739	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1740	Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	30	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1741	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1742	Belted Kingfisher	Ceryle alcyon	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1743	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Melanerpes carolinus	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1744	Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1745	Blue Jay	Cyanocita cristata	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1746	American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	19	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1747	Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	2	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1748	White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1749	Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	2	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1750	American Robin	Turdus migratorius	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1751	European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	2	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1752	Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	4	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1753	Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis	1	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1754	Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	2	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
1755	American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	3	7-Nov-13	8:30am	aro	ound pond					
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LUREC TRAILS GPS



Concluding Remarks

The LUREC Biodiversity data base currently contains over 600 specimen records, comprising 141 species of birds, 145 species of moths and butterflies, 12 species of reptiles and amphibians, 22 species of mammals, 12 species of fish, and more than 270 species of plants....and we have not even looked at most of the insects....

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

 Special thanks are extended to David Treering for his assistance with ArcGIS and Fr. Stephen Mitten, S.J. my mentor. Financial support was provided as a biodiversity internship fellowship by Dr. Nancy Tuchman, Vice-Provost Office, and the Institute of Environmental Sustainability, Loyola University-Chicago