

Bird Field Note  
4/20/14  
Debbie Leick



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KS

Kate found a banded Spotted Towhee in the north fork of Sheep Camp.



Near the corrals in Tongue Creek, a Red-tailed Hawk clutched nest material in its talons.





A quiet, female American Kestrel perched near a nest box in the north fork of Sheep Camp.



A watchful Long-billed Curlew called whenever intruders encroached on its territory.

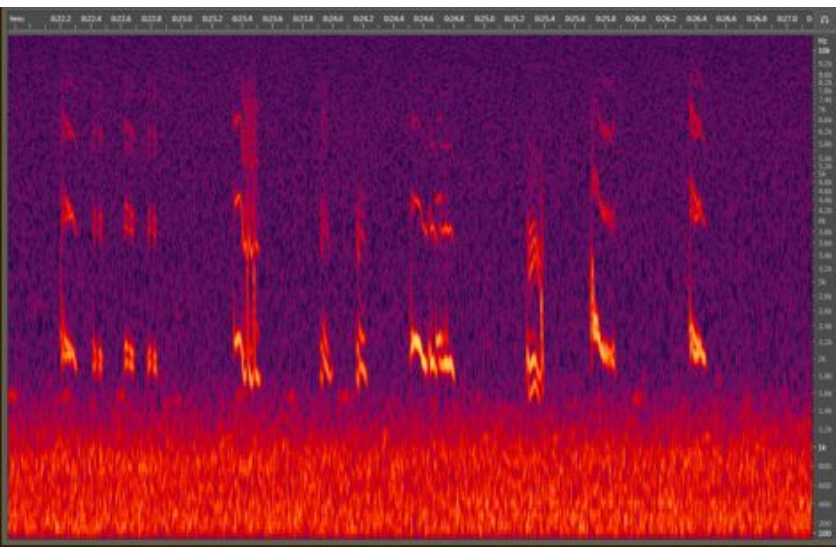
Whenever Tree Swallows approached this nest box, a pair of vigilant Western Bluebirds swooped in and drove them away.



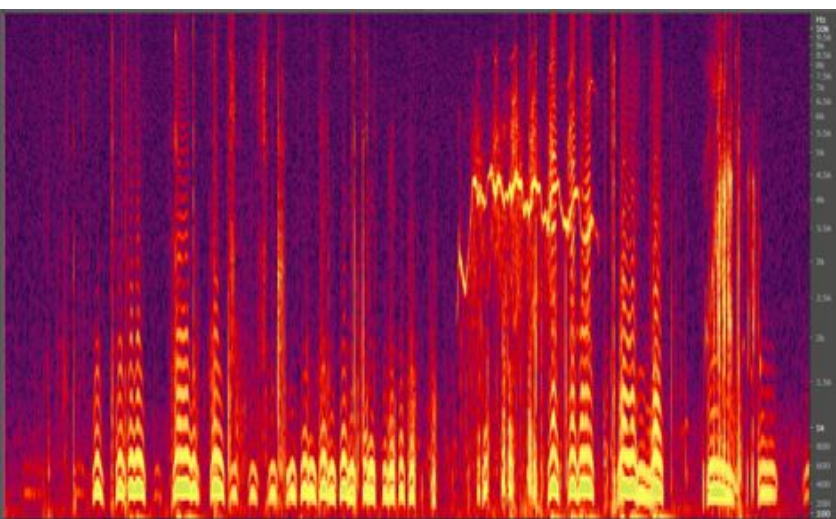


## Avian Acoustic Monitoring

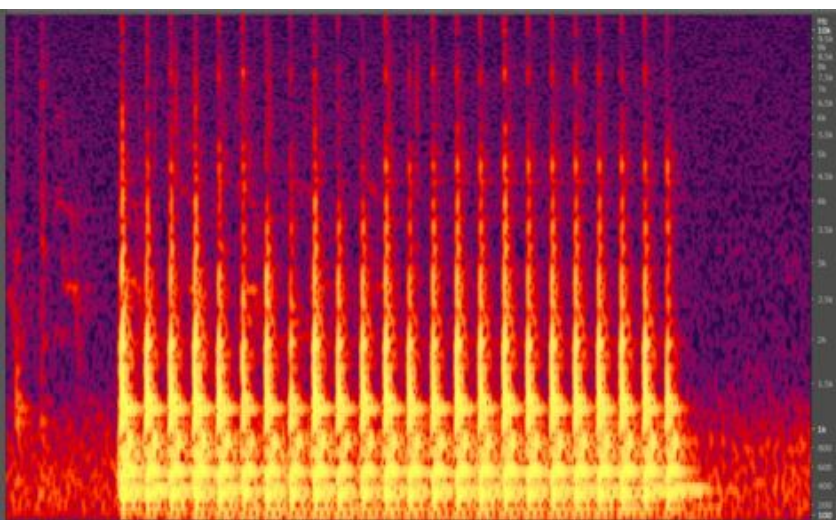
The microphone mast at the floodplain monitoring site provided a popular perch for birds to sing and engage in other activities.



Western Bluebird  
4/2/14

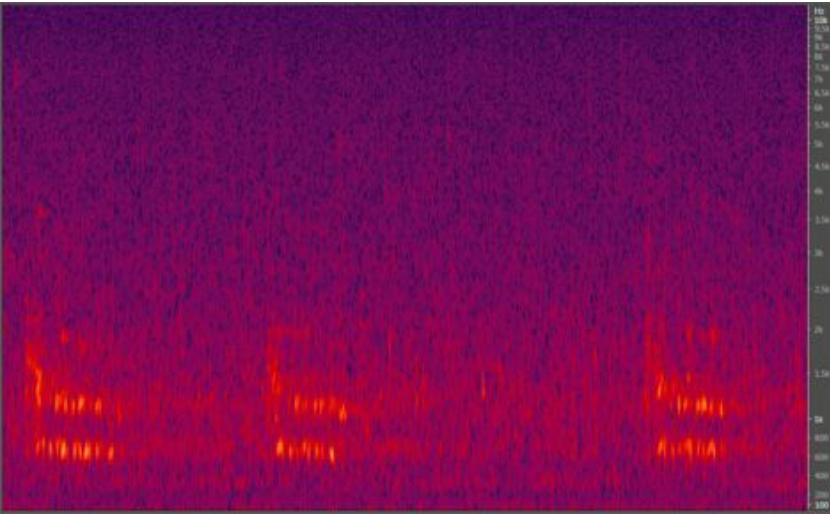


Mating Great Horned Owls  
3/11/14  
Very Loud

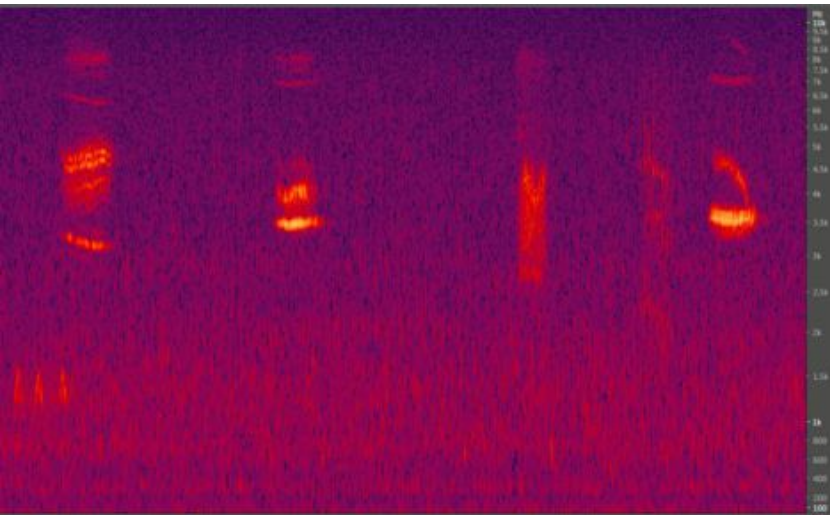


Drumming Northern Flicker  
3/13/14  
Very Loud

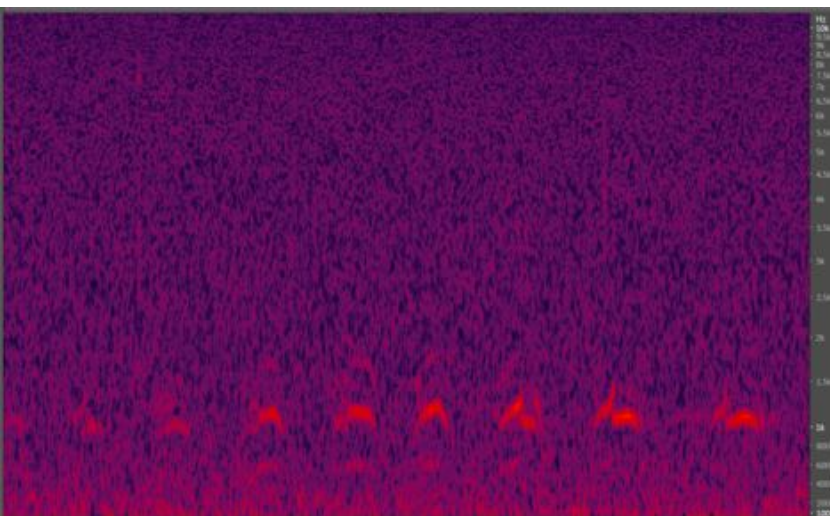
In Upper Woodchuck Meadow, the acoustic monitor recorded vocalizations from four species of owls including Great Horned Owl, Long-eared Owl, Northern Pygmy-Owl, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. It also picked up the Wild Turkey, Varied Thrush and Golden Eagle shown here.



Wild Turkey  
4/1/14



Varied Thrush  
3/29/14

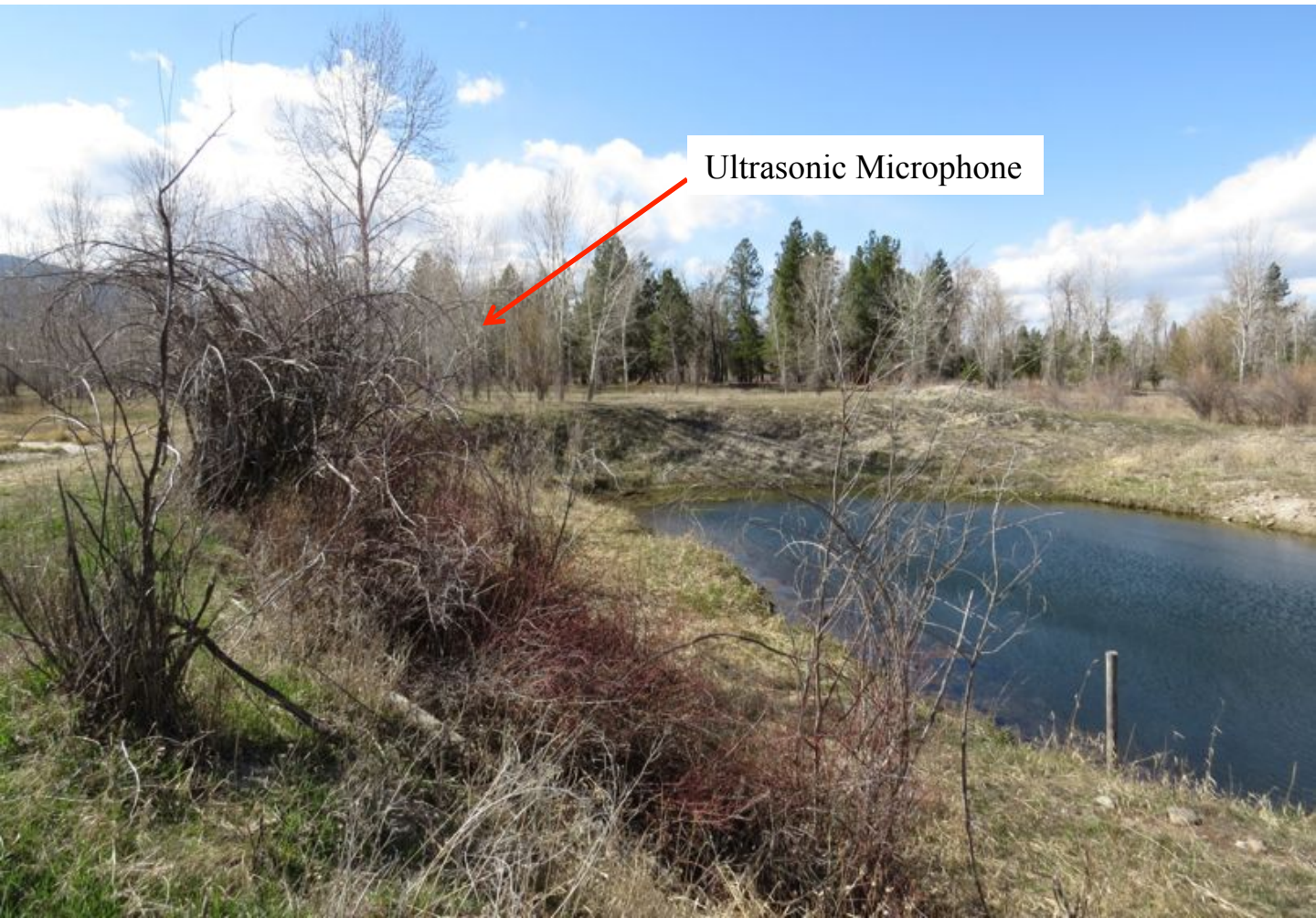


Golden Eagle  
2/2/14

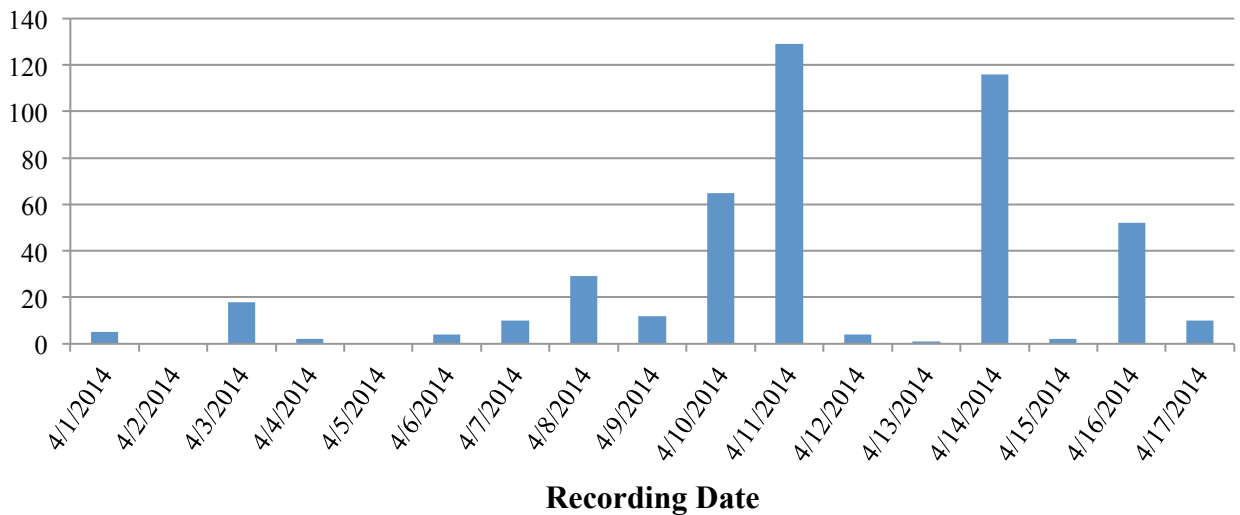


## Bat Acoustic Monitoring

After a winter of no bat activity, the pump slough monitor detected a few bats from mid to late March. Activity increased in April with spikes on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. These large pulses may indicate migrants passing through the area.



**Pump Slough  
Nightly Bat Passes**



## Raptor Migration Update 4/5-4/17

**Eric Rasmussen**

Raptor migration numbers remained slow in early April, but culminated in a surge of 111 migrant accipiters on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks accounted for 51 of those. High numbers of American Kestrels, Osprey, Turkey Vultures, and Red-tailed Hawks between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> boosted our season raptor total to 601.

The forecast calls for a warm start to the week that should end with another cold front by mid-week. Raptors fly regardless of weather, and we should see overall migration numbers increase with accipiters as the bulk of migrants.

### (4/5-4/17) Spring Raptor Totals

		4/5-4/17	Season Total
Eagles	Golden Eagle	13	43
	Bald Eagle	3	18
	Unknown Eagle	2	7
Accipiters	Sharp-shinned Hawk	49	59
	Cooper's Hawk	58	67
	Northern Goshawk	0	0
	Unknown Accipiter	7	10
Buteos	Red-tailed Hawk	54	151
	Rough-legged Hawk	13	59
	Swainson's Hawk	1	1
	Broad-winged Hawk	0	0
	Ferruginous Hawk	0	1
	Unknown Buteo	7	22
Falcons	American Kestrel	34	44
	Merlin	1	2
	Peregrine Falcon	0	1
	Prairie Falcon	2	3
	Unknown Falcon	1	1
Other	Northern Harrier	22	28
	Osprey	19	19
	Turkey Vulture	42	57
	Unknown Hawk	2	8
		330	601



Cooper's Hawks flew a steady line over the high site on our biggest day of the year.



Sometimes we only get one fleeting look at a passing raptor, like this Sharp-shinned Hawk.







Photo Credits  
ER: Eric Rasmussen  
KS: Kate Stone