

**Monthly report to Landsort Board by Observatory Wardens:
Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister
June 2018**

Summary

The first four days of the month had winds from all points of the compass but mainly 3-5 m/s with no ringing on the 5th due to NE 14-19 m/s winds. A period of moderate winds from the 8th until mid-month was followed by another period of strong winds leading up to mid-summer with gusts of over 25 m/s on the 22nd – Happy mid-summer!!! An improvement for the end of the month, though winds remained occasionally strong. There were three days when ringing was not possible due to the strength of the wind and a further day when ringing produced no birds.

Ringing

All data entered onto Fågel3 and submitted to Ringing Central.

The totals for the month were low, with just 452 birds caught. Although this was the sixth highest June total in the 31 years of the Observatory it should be recognised that in most previous years little, if any, ringing took place during most of the month.

Regular ringing effort has taken place in June during only six years (2005-2007 & 2016-2018), with 2018 ranked fifth, underlining the low numbers caught in the month. This continues the trend noticed during May. Hopefully this is not an early indicator of low numbers arriving on breeding territories, with the risk that this might impact on numbers migrating in autumn.

Highlights for the month included: Black Redstart (Svart röstjärt) on the 1st, a Greenish Warbler (Lundsångare) also on the 1st to give four for the year so far. The first Marsh Warbler (Kärrensångare) on the 2nd was followed by a further five birds on the 3rd. A Firecrest (Brandkronad kungsfågel) on the 24th was the only June bird ever trapped here, while the Water Rail (Vattenrall) on the 28th was the third ever trapped at the Obs and the first since 2015. Two Common Swift (Tornseglare) ringed in the month were birds that are attempting to breed at the Observatory. One nesting attempt has been made by the Swift, though two eggs were found below the nest. We suspect the female has re-layed and is currently incubating the second clutch. On the 30th, our suspicions were confirmed when we found part of a newly hatched egg on the ground below the box. This is a strong indication that a chick has hatched, but more will be known in the next few weeks. A further box is being occupied but not being used for breeding this year. Up to eight birds are regularly displaying around the Observatory: promising signs for future breeding.

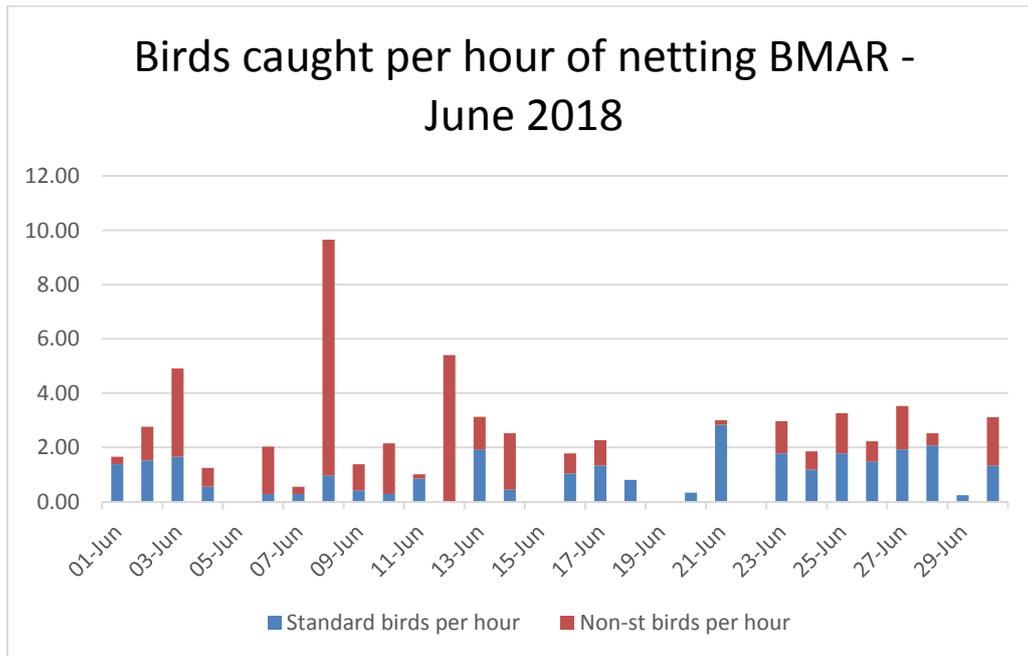
A report on the monitoring of nest boxes will be submitted once the final two Pied Flycatcher (Svartvit flugsnappare) broods are ringed.

Ringling took place on 27 days.

Hours netting	183.25
Average per day	6.79

Av birds/hr	2.5
-------------	-----

Total birds	452	
Standard	189	42%
Non-standard	263	58%



Sightings of note during June

For a complete review of birds reported during the month please visit: <https://artportalen.se/search/sightings/site/2074506> The following summary is compiled from a review of the daily diary and from records mentioned to us by members:

- Horned Grebe Svarthakedopping pair with 4 eggs 1st
- Common Sandpiper Drillsnäppa pair 1st
- Teal Kricka female with 6 young 8th
- King Eider Praktejder male 9th
- Turtle Dove Tuturduva 1 10th
- Red-footed Falcon Aftonfalk male 25th
- Crested Tit Tofsmes 1 30th

Other work on the Observatory

- Grass and vegetation around nets and Obs cut;
- 5 guided talks given;
- Four talks given to school children from one school;
- Some boardwalks repaired;
- All remaining nest boxes checked and all young ringed;
- Report on nest box monitoring written;
- Work completed on a summary of peak timing of spring and autumn migration of species through Landsort (from ringing data). Results on notice board;
- Tape of Common Swift (Tornseglare) played daily to attract birds to the nest boxes;
- Weekly cash reconciliations undertaken and record kept of over-night stays;
- Membership list and bank statements kept up to date and sent to Pelle;
- Time spent researching migration watching and breeding bird surveying methods on behalf of the Board;
- Common areas, toilet, kitchen etc cleaned before and after each weekend;
- Lab cleaned weekly;
- Bird bags washed.

Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister.
30th June 2018