

2022 Idaho Hummingbird Banding Summary

I enjoyed another wonderful summer in Idaho enjoying the weather and visiting friends while continuing my long-term hummingbird research. I conducted 22 banding sessions at 11 locations and banded a total of 876 hummingbirds including 460 Calliopes, 289 Black-chinned, 97 Broad-tailed, 29 Rufous, and one hybrid.

Highlight of summer banding was the number and age of returning previously banded birds. At Cathy and Jeff Oesterling's home near Inkom, I caught a male Broad-tailed banded in August 2019 near Escalante UT. I also caught that bird at their home last summer. At Maxine Jeffs' home in High Valley, I caught a female Black-chinned that was at least ten years old.

The one hybrid I caught was interesting because I banded it August 2021 as a standard juvenile male Calliope. Only after it molted into adult plumage could it be identified as a Calliope x Broad-tailed hybrid using a combination of measurements and plumage shape and color.



The decrease in banding numbers this summer was caused by the loss of two long-term banding sites when the hosts moved. I hope to find more locations next summer.