

IDAHO 2023

I enjoyed another wonderful summer in beautiful Idaho where I conducted 26 banding sessions at 12 different host locations. I banded 983 hummingbirds of five species including Black-chinned, Calliope, Broad-tailed, Rufous, and Anna's. I also recaptured 183 of my previously banded birds from two to eight years old.

Some of the most interesting birds from the summer included two Anna's banded at Judy and Bill Collin's Boise home on my last banding session. Anna's are still relatively rare in Idaho, and it was a treat to catch two juvenile males.



Another interesting hummer was a Calliope x Black-chinned hybrid I banded near Inkom at the home of Cathy and Jeff Oesting. I had to study the gorget pattern, measurements, feather shape, and feather color to identify that bird.



I also caught a Black-chinned at the Oesterling's home that had a gorget pattern and color that I have not seen before. Rather than the normal adult male gorget with iridescent black on top and iridescent purple below, that bird had a non- iridescent all gray gorget with white edging on the gorget feathers.



I am already planning to be back in Idaho early May next summer to see my wonderful hummer hosts and learn more about Idaho hummingbirds.