

**Benzie Audubon field trip to Monitor nesting boxes on the Betsie Valley Trail
9/24/2011**

Miles from Beulah	Box #	Bird Nest	Species	Apparent Success?	Nesting Notes	Box & other Notes
2.4	9A	No		No	Empty box	Side-opening, installed '11
2.4	9B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with dropping	Side-opening
2.6	10A	Yes, 2 nests	House Wren over Bluebird	House Wren Yes, Bluebird ?	Twig nest with some feathers, over incomplete(?) grass nest	Side-opening, wasps, no wasp nest
2.6	10	Yes	House Wren	Yes	Twig nest with droppings	Side-opening
2.65	9X	Yes, 2 nests	House Wren over Bluebird	?	Twig nest with feathers, over complete grass nest, but no droppings seen in either	Bottom-opening box
2.65	9Y	No		No	Empty box	Bottom-opening box. Wasp, no wasp nest
3.7	11	No	Tree Swallow	No	Dead Tree Swallow skeleton	Side-opening, wasp but no wasp nest
3.7	11B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	grass nest with droppings	Side-opening, nail closure, would be easier if screw closure
3.8	13A	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings and one small skeleton (assume fledgling)	Side-opening
3.8	13B	Yes	Tree Swallow	Yes	White feathers line grass nest with droppings	Side-opening, Wasp nest with wasps
4	14A	Yes, 2 nests	both Bluebird	Top nest yes, bottom nest ?	Two grass nests, droppings in the upper one	Bottom-opening box
4	14B	No		No	Empty box	Side-opening, Wasp nest
4.5-4.8	15A	Yes	Tree Swallow	Yes	Grass nest with feathers and droppings	Side-opening
4.5-4.8	15B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
4.7-4.8	16	Yes	Bluebird, maybe Tree Swallow below	?	Grass with few feathers at the bottom, no droppings	Side-opening, hole has been pecked so could use a wood hole-guard
4.7-4.8	17	Yes	Bluebird nest over partial House Wren	?	Twigs below with grass nest on top, no droppings	Side-opening

Zimmerman Road						
4.85	18	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
4.98	19A	Yes	Tree Swallow	No	Partial nest with dead adult Tree Swallow	Side-opening
5.01	19B	Yes	Tree Swallow	Yes	Grass nest with some feathers and lots of droppings	Side-opening
5.3	20	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
5.4	Y	Yes	Tree Swallow	Yes	Grass & feathers, 1 unhatched egg	Bottom-opening box.
5.4	X	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Bottom-opening box
6.1	21A	No		No	Few strands of grass	Side-opening
6.1	21B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
6.3	22	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest and pine needles with droppings	Side-opening
6.9	23A	Yes	Tree Swallow	No	Full nest with grass & lots of feathers and 5 unhatched cream-color eggs	Side-opening, can't read box number
6.9	23B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
7	24	Yes	Bluebird	?	Grass nest, but no droppings	Side-opening, wasp, but no wasp nest
7.2	25A	No		No	Empty box	Side-opening, wasp, no wasp nest
7.2	25B	Yes	Bluebird	Yes	Grass nest with droppings	Side-opening
Pioneer Road						

Summary:

Total Boxes Monitored = 30

Boxes with a bird nest = 24

Boxes with apparent Bluebird success = 12

Boxes with apparent House Wren success = 1

Boxes with apparent Tree Swallow success = 4

Boxes with dead adult Tree Swallows inside = 2

Boxes with wasp nests or wasps = 7

Notes:

Participants were Bryce & Paula Dreeszen, John Ester, Bill Gittlen, Nancy Baglan, and Kim Nora-Moses

Started from Beulah at 9:15, everyone went as far as box 17 then all but Bryce turned around.

Bryce continued on foot (due to a flat tire on his bike) to Pioneer Rd. where Paula picked him up.

Finished at 12 noon.

Yellow boxes above were not monitored in 2010.