Weekly Update August 20th to August 26th 2016

This week saw some more neat captures for us.... We caught our first juvenile Cedar Waxwing of the year! We additionally caught our first Orange-crowned Warbler, which is always a tricky one until you remember to brush their crown back to see the orange patch. We have also caught a number of Ovenbird, Swainsons Thrushes, and Lincolns Sparrows. Also, our Myrtle Warblers are finally arriving in numbers! They are usually one of our most caught birds of migration.

This week we joined the Love the Lake Day event at Pigeon Lake. We ran a booth representing bird banding and conservation. We ran one mist net, and luckily we caught two different warblers, despite how busy the event was. We caught one adult female Yellow Warbler and one Myrtle Warbler juvenile. Just in case we did not catch many birds, we brought along Ray the Northern Saw-whet Owl, and she was very popular! We had 217 visitors visit us.



Emily, Ray the Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Meghan. Photo credit: Piper Radostits

Things are ramping up for owl netting! We plan to start banding in early September this year in order to observe if the Saw-whets are moving early. Last year when we started banding, we began catching the owls in decent numbers almost right away, which suggests that they had already started moving and we had not caught the very beginning of the migration. We are also going to try to mist net for Long-eared Owls in early September because we have seen so many this summer.

We have also observed many raptors hanging around lately, both in the forest and out on the grassland. We have observed Coopers and Sharp-shinned Hawks in the forest, along with a family of Broad-winged Hawks, which also like forest habitat. On the grasslands, we have seen many Northern Harriers and Red-tailed Hawks as well. Like the songbirds that we spend many months monitoring, these predatory birds migrate as well, and what better time than the same time your food source is moving? We will likely continue to see these raptors until migration ends.

Thanks volunteers and visitors: Helmi, Steve Andersen, Andrew Haskin, Irene, Matt and Jordan, Chris, Jody Rintoul, Tom Jacklin and Tanya White. You keep us going!

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Ruby-throated						
Hummingbird	0	0	0	0	1	1
Trails Flycatcher	3	0	0	0	0	3
Least Flycatcher	33	13	1	0	1	48
Black-capped Chickadee	1	2	0	0	0	3
House Wren	3	1	0	0	0	4
Warbling Vireo	5	2	1	0	0	8
Swainsons Thrush	4	0	0	0	0	4
Cedar Waxwing	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	14	1	0	0	0	15
Yellow Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
Myrtle Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Magnolia Warbler	4	0	0	0	0	4
American Redstart	4	0	0	0	0	4
Blackpoll Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Wilsons Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ovenbird	7	0	0	0	0	7
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Common Yellowthroat	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black and White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Northern Waterthrush	2	0	0	0	0	2
Song Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lincolns Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-coloured Sparrow	1	1	1	0	0	3
White-throated Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	102	20	3	0	2	127

Birds Caught 127
Net Hours 338
Capture Rate: 37.57

Capture Rate was 37.57 birds/100 Net Hours.

- 1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO.
- 2 Banded at the BBO > 90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).
- 3 Banded at a location other than the BBO.
- 4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).