

Weekly Update August 27th to September 2nd 2017

This week we are starting to see the first geese migrating! Both White-fronted Geese and Canada Geese have been seen flying overhead. Not only that, but we caught several new species for the fall in the migration nets. We caught the first Orange-crowned Warblers, and the first Cooper's Hawk! This is the first raptor caught this year for BBO. Hooray!! We also caught two relatively rare warblers, a Black-and-White Warbler and a Canada Warbler. On the other hand, we have also said farewell to our Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. They are off to better pastures, but we'll see them next year.



A second year female Cooper's Hawk caught at BBO. Photo credit to Meghan Jacklin.

We had a final visit from our most common species at the BBO. We are probably seeing the last of the Least Flycatchers this week as their numbers peter out. We caught a few baby Least Flycatchers who were still growing in both their flight feathers and tails feathers. They were flying in a family group,

still being fed by parents, but will be on their own way soon. They will fly to and winter in Central America. Good luck little ones!

An enthusiastic group of girl guides joined us for songbird banding this week. They got to see a couple of neat warblers, and then experience a nature walk led by Sara. We welcome visits from groups wanting to experience bird conservation at BBO. Contact biologist@beaverhillbirds.com to arrange a group visit to BBO!



A Yellow-rumped Warbler caught at BBO. Photo credit to Meghan Jacklin.

We are beginning to get ready for Sara and Meghan's favorite birdies! This week we set all four Saw-whet Owl nets. We also did some early season maintenance and patched holes in the owl nets from the end of last season. Holes in the nets can cause birds to get caught badly and potentially hurt, so we sewed them up. The last two years at BBO have been record years for owls, but we hope this is the new normal. Bring on the Owls!

There are not too many big projects left as we are nearing the end of the summer season. We painted new numbers onto several Tree Swallow nest grids, as the numbers had worn off from exposure to sun and rain. It is important for collecting accurate data to ensure that we know which box is which, so we can analyze whether chicks return to breed near the boxes they hatched in. We also patched some other mist nets and did road maintenance this week.

Thank you to our amazing volunteers: Emily and Chris, Jeremy and Jon, Greg, Alyshia, Amelia, Logan, Scott, Elene, and Catriona, Christine and friend, Nat, Robin and Brett, and Irene. Special thanks to Helmi for your company, hard work, and beautiful drawings!!!

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Downy Woodpecker	1	0	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	16	6	2	0	0	24
Trail's Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	0	2
Black-capped Chickadee	6	12	0	0	0	18
House Wren	5	3	1	0	0	9
Swainson's Thrush	6	0	0	0	0	6
Warbling Vireo	3	1	0	0	0	4
Red-eyed Vireo	1	0	0	0	0	1
Yellow Warbler	8	0	0	0	0	8
Wilson's Warbler	16	0	0	0	0	16
Black-and-White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Redstart	7	0	0	0	0	7
Northern Waterthrush	2	0	0	0	0	2
Myrtle Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	0	0	0	0	2
Magnolia Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
Canada Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mourning Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Clay-coloured Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	4	1	0	0	0	5
Ovenbird	6	0	0	0	0	6
Song Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lincoln Sparrow	3	0	0	0	0	3
White-throated Sparrow	5	0	0	0	0	5
Total	105	23	3	0	0	131

Birds Caught 131
 Net Hours 529.75
 Capture Rate: 24.73

Capture Rate was 24.73 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).