



Northern Saw-whet Owl

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, October 15 - October 21, 2018

At the beginning of this week, staff were very busy setting up the Boreal Owl nets. The BBO staff are now going to run 3 different owl programs. The Northern Saw-whet Owl monitoring, the Long-eared Owl monitoring, and starting the Boreal Owl monitoring. Make sure to come out during the week to see these beautiful creatures being banded in person.

Staff continued conducting census until October 20th which was very quiet over the last week except for the Snow Geese which were still migrating in large numbers through the area. Further, due to the fantastically warm weather this week, staff opened songbird fall migration mist nets for 3 days (Oct.17,18, and 19th). Over these three days, we caught a few American Tree Sparrows and quite a few recaptured Chickadees and Hairy/Downy Woodpeckers. This extra data confirmed the BBO's staff belief that the migrant songbirds had already left for the warmer weather down South.

BBO staff hosted 2 different groups over the last weekend which included the Friends of the Elk Island group and the Augustana Wildlife Club group. Both nights they were lucky enough to see some owls banded. Stephanie (intern) and Emily also attended an open house at the Wild Bird General Store in Edmonton with Rickie our educational Northern Saw-whet Owl. The event was very successful, and it was great exposure for the BBO and brought lots of people into the Wild Bird General Store. Emily also attended an educational event with Colonel the Barred Owl which was a huge success.



An ASY (after second year) Northern Saw-whet Owl flight feather molt pattern

Kevin and Sara have been busy packing down the lab in preparation for the end of the field season and moving things into storage at Geoff Holroyd's for the winter. They have also been busy with work emails, grants, and educational bookings.

Thank you to all our volunteers, interns, and board members who helped with all the BBO tasks over the last week.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Tree Sparrow	4				1	5
Black-capped Chickadee	1	6			1	8
Downy Woodpecker	2	3				5
Hairy Woodpecker		1				1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1					1
White-breasted Nuthatch					1	1
Total	8	10	0	0	3	21

		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).
Net Hours: 195		3 Banded at a location other than the BBO
Capture Rate: 10.7/100hrs		4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	56	3				59
Long-eared Owl	3					3
Boreal Owl						0
Total	59	3	0	0	0	62

		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).
Net Hours: 340.5		3 Banded at a location other than the BBO
Capture Rate: 18.2/100hs		4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).