Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update September 7th – September 13th



Songbirds wait patiently in their bags during a morning banding rush. All these birds were captured in a single net check!

Fall migration continues to push through, which made for some very exciting and busy days of banding. September 10th was particularly hectic with 130 birds captured in a single morning! Some notable captures this week include another juvenile Sharp-shinned Hawk, a White-breasted Nuthatch, and the first White-crowned Sparrow of the fall season. Our experimental nets have continued to perform extremely well, on the morning of the 9th they caught 80 birds in a single net check!

While the number of captures for owl monitoring remain low, staff were delighted to catch the first Long-eared Owl of the season this week! We catch far fewer Long-eared Owls than Saw-whet Owls, and it's always a treat to see such a gorgeous and elusive owl up close! We expect to start catching more Saw-whet Owls in the coming weeks as their migration picks up.

Aside from banding, staff were also delighted to have our brand new banding bench get installed this week! This bench was funded by a generous donation from a visitor, and will make hosting visitors even more of a breeze once we are able to hold banding events inside!

The busy days of banding this week were able to run extremely smoothly thanks to help from our awesome volunteers! Thank you to Martine, Dan, Maud, Camile, and Irene for coming out this week! A special thank you to Irene Crosland, Meghan Jacklin, and Helen Trefry for covering two nights of owl monitoring while staff were on days off!



A Long-eared Owl. The distinctive tufts on this bird's head aren't actually its ears, just upright tufts of feathers.

If you're interested in getting involved as a volunteer, check out the 'Volunteer' page on our website for information on how to sign up!

Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

| Species | Banded | Repeat ¹ | Return ² | Foreign ³ | Other ⁴ | Total |
|-------------------------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Myrtle Warbler | 118 | 5 | | | | 123 |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 6 | 10 | | | | 16 |
| Downy Woodpecker | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| White-throated Sparrow | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Slate-colored Junco | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Least Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| White-crowned Sparrow | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Red-eyed Vireo | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Wilson's Warbler | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Orange-crowned Warbler | 3 | 1 | | | | 4 |
| Blackpoll Warbler | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Wilson's Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Ovenbird | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Swainson's Thrush | 4 | | | | | 4 |
| Yellow Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Magnolia Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| TOTALS | 151 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 167 |

375.5 net-hours

44.5 captures/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).

Table 2. Experimental Nets Banding Totals

| Species | Banded | Repeat ¹ | Return ² | Foreign ³ | Other ⁴ | Total |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Myrtle Warbler | 78 | 1 | | | 1 | 80 |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 8 | 7 | | | | 15 |
| Least Flycatcher | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Tennessee Warbler | 5 | | | | | 5 |
| Orange-crowned Warbler | 9 | | | | | 9 |
| Wilson's Warbler | 6 | | | | | 6 |
| Slate-colored Junco | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| American Goldfinch | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Common Yellowthroat | 5 | | | | | 5 |
| House Wren | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 3 |
| Red-eyed Vireo | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Warbling Vireo | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Cape May Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Trail's Flycatcher | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Clay-colored Sparrow | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Song Sparrow | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Blackpoll Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| TOTALS | 123 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 135 |

45 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

300 captures/100 net-hours

- 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).

Table 3. Owl Monitoring Banding Totals

| Species | Banded | Repeat ¹ | Return ² | Foreign ³ | Other ⁴ | Total |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Northern Saw-whet Owl | 4 | | | | | 4 |
| Long-eared Owl | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| TOTALS | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |

84 playback hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

5.9 captures/100 playback hours

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).