

Weekly Update October 1st to 7th

This week has been a slower but really good week! We were unable to open nets twice due to weather, but still managed to capture on other days lots of American Tree Sparrows, Slate Coloured Juncos, a Brown Creeper and our first Golden-Crowned Kinglet of the fall season!

Owls have been doing well with a total of 27 Northern Saw-Whet Owls captured and our first Boreal Owl!!! The Boreal Owl decided to grace us with its presence on October 3rd which is really interesting because they are usually much later migrants and tend to start flying near the end of October. Still, we were happy to see him and band him, and we will now be opening our Boreal Owl Nets next week.

Thousands of Snow Geese have been seen flying overhead this week, as well as our first Tundra Swans were spotted.

We cleaned out and prepared our owl nesting boxes for next year's breeding season. All the old nesting material was removed and fresh wood shavings were replaced. We also installed the Ray Cromie owl box. This owl box was donated to the BBO in honour and memory of Ray Crombie who was an amazing biologist, passionate man, and owl bander extraordinaire who passed away last year.

Meghan gave a presentation and nature walk to some students from the Roberta MacAdams School. At the end of the nature walk, the kids flushed up a Great Horned Owl, which proceeded to fly across a clearing for everyone to see! That was a special sight!

Thanks to all the people that came out this week to visit! The Junior Forest Wardens as well as the Friends Of Elk Island and a Boy Scout Group came out for owls. As did many others including; Sabina, Lawrence, Amelie, Ethan, Connie, Emily, Ariel, Alyssa and her parents, Steve with some friends, Marie, Meghan, Christine, Shelly, Fred, Brittany and 9 NAIT students! It was great to have you all visit and spend time with us! We always appreciate the company and extra hands when things get busy. You guys were all awesome, please come out again!



The Ray Cromie owl box now installed and can be viewed from the Weasel Wynd trail

| Species | Banded | Repeat¹ | Return² | Foreign³ | Other⁴ | Total |
|---|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| American Tree Sparrow | 82 | 2 | | | 4 | 88 |
| Black-capped Chickadee | | 2 | | | 1 | 3 |
| Brown Creeper | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Downy Woodpecker | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Lincoln's Sparrow | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Myrtle Warbler | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | 3 | 1 | | | | 4 |
| Slate-Coloured Junco | 19 | 9 | | | 1 | 29 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Total | 109 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 130 |
| | | | | | | |
| Birds Caught | 130 | | | | | |
| Net Hours | 211.25 | | | | | |
| Capture Rate: | 61.53846154 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Capture Rate was 61.54 birds/100 Net Hours. | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Species | Banded | Repeat¹ | Return² | Foreign³ | Other⁴ | Total |
| Boreal Owl | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Northern Saw-Whet Owl | 27 | | | | | 27 |
| Total | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 |
| | | | | | | |
| Birds Caught | 28 | | | | | |
| Net Hours | 116 | | | | | |
| Capture Rate | 23.27586207 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Capture Rate was 23.28 birds/100 Net Hours | | | | | | |