

# Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update September 6-12

Jana Teefy



*First Hermit Thrush capture of the year!*

The staff enjoyed a week of beautiful weather with capture rates and species diversity picking up. A whopping 264 Myrtle Warblers were captured this week - that's 44/100 net-hours! Additional fun captures include 5 Wilson's Warblers, a Gray Catbird, a Hermit Thrush, a Savanna Sparrow, a Vesper Sparrow. 6 Red-breasted Nuthatches were captured in the standard nets and 1 White-breasted Nuthatch was captured in the feeder net. This week marked the first full week of owl migration monitoring and yielded 4 Northern Saw-whet Owls and 2 Long-eared Owls, which the staff were very excited to band.

Additional to banding, the staff worked on wrapping up summer projects like Habitat assessments for the migration net lanes to track forest succession over time. They also visited nests they found in the spring to determine nest outcomes and lowered, cleaned, and closed up the Purple Martin colony nest boxes for the season. They also plugged away at the never-ending data entry and net repair.



*Family photo of Red-breasted Nuthatches. An after-hatch year female, after-hatch year male, and hatch year female were all caught together in migration monitoring net 53.*



*Hatch-year male Long-eared Owl*

Songbird banding events continued this week with 24 visitors, 19 of which were adults and 5 were children. The owl ticketed events start soon and staff were busy preparing for hosting nearly 600 visitors and volunteers during 2 nights of Supper and Saw-whets and 21 nights of Owl Banding Events.

Fall volunteer shifts were published and filled up quickly. The observatory would like to welcome the new and returning volunteers. Thank you for your help this week Megan, Jac, Christie, Peter, Melissa, Molly, and Madison.



*Vesper Sparrow. A rare capture!*

Table 1 Capture totals for standard nets

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Least Flycatchers	2					2
American Robin	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee	2	16				18
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6					6
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2					2
White-throated Sparrow	2					2
Gray Catbird	1					1
Red-eyed Vireo	2					2
Hermit Thrush	1					1
Swainson's Thrush	4					4
Myrtle Warbler	148	21			3	172
American Redstart	3					3
Western Palm Warbler	1					1
Wilson's Warbler	3					3
Connecticut Warbler	1					1
Blackpoll Warbler	2					2
Tennessee Warbler	5					5
Orange-crowned Warbler	6					6
Magnolia Warbler	1					1
Ovenbird	2					2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>236</b>

**Net hours: 433**

**Capture Rate: 54.5 captures/100 net hours**

<sup>1</sup> Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

<sup>2</sup> Banded at the BBO >90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).

<sup>3</sup> Banded at a location other than the BBO

<sup>4</sup> Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

Table 2 Capture totals for experimental nets

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Black-capped Chickadee	5	3				8
House Wren	1					1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2					2
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Hairy Woodpecker	1					1
Least Flycatcher	2					2
Trails Flycatcher	1					1
Warbling Vireo	3		1			4
Philadelphia Vireo	1					1
White-throated Sparrow	3					3
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
Vesper Sparrow	1					1
Clay-colored Sparrow	4					4
Myrtle Warbler	85	6			1	92
Tennessee Warbler	3	3				6
Orange-crowned Warbler	9	1				10
Yellow Warbler			1			1
Blackpoll Warbler	1					1
Wilson's Warbler	3					3
Black and White Warbler	2					2
Western Palm Warbler	1					1
Common Yellowthroat	3					3
Magnolia Warbler	1					1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>

**Net hours: 173.5**

**Capture Rate: 86.5 captures/100 net hours**

<sup>1</sup> Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

<sup>2</sup> Banded at the BBO >90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).

<sup>3</sup> Banded at a location other than the BBO

<sup>4</sup> Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

Table 3 Capture totals for owl nets

Species	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Foreign <sup>3</sup>	Other <sup>4</sup>	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl (M)	4					4
Northern Saw-whet Owl (F)	0					0
Long-eared Owl	2					2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

NSWO Male

2 Banded at the BBO >90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).

Lure Playback Hours: 41

3 Banded at a location other than the BBO

Capture Rate: 9.8 captures/100 net-hours

4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

NSWO Female

Lure Playback Hours: 40

Capture Rate: 0 captures/100 net-hours

Long-Eared Owl

Playback Hours: 20.5

Capture Rate: 9.7 captures/100 net-hours