

## Weekly Update October 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

What a great week out at the lab! The weather has been slowly improving and we were finally able to open songbird nets before our take-down date on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The few songbirds caught this week were Black-capped Chickadees, Slate-coloured Juncos, and American Tree Sparrows.

The Saw-whet numbers have also finally picked up and we are back on track to keep up with the record year in 2015; however, the numbers have been quite variable with some nights as low as 1 owl, but others as high as 32, so the banders have to be prepared for anything! We also begun monitoring Boreal Owls in addition to our Saw-whet owl nets, and it has started off quite strongly with three Boreals already caught in this first week. We catch Boreal Owls in a similar way to the Saw-whets – with mist nets and an audio playback of their territorial call.



The first Boreal Owl of 2016. Photo Credit E. Cicon

Thanks to Shauna, Norm, Brianna, Natasha, Ryan, Helaynea, Autumn, Alieeia, Jeremy, the Friends of Elk Island, Torin, Irene, Bev, Chester, Gerry, Jody, Sherry, Caitlin, Emily, Julia, Janet, Natasha, Logan, Laura, Augustana Wildlife Club, Robyn, Megan, Robert, Ursula, Erin, Danielle, Myles, Shelley, Outdoors Club, Bob, Tessa, Luka, and Simon for volunteering/ visiting this week!

### Songbird Migration Monitoring

<b>Species</b>	<b>Banded</b>	<b>Repeat<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Foreign<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Other<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Black-capped Chickadee	3				1	<b>4</b>
American Tree Sparrow	2					<b>2</b>
Slate-coloured Junco	7					<b>7</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>

Birds Caught                    13  
 Net Hours                        91  
 Capture Rate:                    14.29

Capture Rate was 14.29 birds/100 Net Hours.

### Owl Migration Monitoring

<b>Species</b>	<b>Banded</b>	<b>Repeat<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Foreign<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Other<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Northern Saw-whet Owl	101	1		3		<b>105</b>
Boreal Owl	3					<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>108</b>

Birds Caught                    108  
 Net Hours                        212  
 Capture Rate:                    50.94

Capture Rate was 50.94 birds/100 Net Hours.