

## Weekly Update September 3<sup>rd</sup> to September 9<sup>th</sup> 2017

Geese continue to fly overhead this week, but no sign of the Snow Geese returning yet. In the nets we have caught a couple new species for the fall: White-crowned Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Sharp-shinned Hawk! We are seeing increased numbers of some of our later migrant warblers going through as well, both Orange-crowned Warblers and Myrtle Warblers have been caught in increasing numbers.



Comparison between female Cooper's Hawk and male Sharp-shinned Hawk. The biggest difference is that Cooper's Hawks are bigger. Photo credit to Meghan Jacklin and Irene Crosland.

This week, staff have begun surveying birds on the east side of Beaverhill Lake. BBO is considering an expansion in the future by building a satellite station on the east side of the lake! Because of BBO's location on the edge of Beaverhill Lake, there is the chance that the largest volume of migrants actually travel around BBO and therefore do not get caught or recorded. Staff started surveying the east side to look for potential locations for a satellite station. There is still much work to be done before such a station is operational. After a location is chosen, in spring 2018, staff and volunteers will attempt mist netting for a week to compare to BBO capture rates.

Hooray! This week Northern Saw-whet Owl banding has begun! Staff opened NSWOW nets on September 5, in hopes of having a few nights without captures to guarantee that we have caught the start of migration. Instead, we have caught 1-2 owls every night this week. That is very exciting for us, bird migration can be very hard to predict! Nonetheless, we are happy to welcome the owls, as well as any people who might wish to join us.



One of the first Northern Saw-whet Owls caught in fall 2017. Photo credit Sara Pearce Meijerink.

Thank you to our awesome volunteers: Amelie, Greg, Laurie and family, Alyssa, Amanda, Helen, Irene, Erin and Meaghan, Al, Cat and Bucky, and Mel and Richard. Thanks to Laurie's class from NAIT for joining us to learn about songbird banding, and thank you to the BBO board for all your hard work!

<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>
Downy Woodpecker	0	1	0	0	0	1
Least Flycatcher	1	1	0	0	1	3
Trail's Flycatcher	2	0	0	0	1	3
Black-capped Chickadee	4	7	0	0	0	11
House Wren	2	3	0	0	0	5
Swainson's Thrush	2	0	0	0	0	2
Warbling Vireo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	0	0	0	0	2
Eastern Phoebe	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wilson's Warbler	6	0	0	0	0	6
Black-and-White Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
American Redstart	4	0	0	0	0	4
Common Yellowthroat	3	0	0	0	0	3
Myrtle Warbler	13	0	0	0	0	13
Orange-crowned Warbler	15	3	0	0	0	18
American Goldfinch	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	5	2	0	0	0	7
Ovenbird	2	0	0	0	0	2
Slate-coloured Junco	3	1	0	0	0	4
Song Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lincoln Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0	2
White-crowned Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0	2
White-throated Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>98</b>

Birds Caught                    98  
Net Hours                        545.5  
Capture Rate:                    17.97

Capture Rate was 17.97 birds/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).