

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, September 17- September 23, 2018

This past week at the Beaverhill Bird Observatory has been FABULOUS! Over three days during fall migration we caught 608 birds!! The first day of three we caught 242 birds, the second day we caught 176 birds with 164 being caught in one check and the third day we caught 190 birds! Nearly half of these 608 birds were Myrtle Warblers!



Sara overwhelmed with birds!

Surprisingly, we have not caught a lot of sparrows or Slate-colored Juncos yet, so those rushes are bound to come still. Given the sheer number of birds that we caught those three days in row, staff had to call in our board members for back-up each day. Thank you to Geoff and Helen who really helped staff deal with this influx of birds. Also, a huge thank you to Steve from the

Wildbird General Store who volunteered his time to help the staff during the one big bird day and to Jeremy who came from Edmonton to help.



Emily banding multiple birds!

We also hosted Chris Olsen's university class one morning for songbird banding. Unfortunately, on the day they came out we were only able to open the nets for an hour and only caught one House Wren for

them. Luckily, they still enjoyed their time at the BBO and the all the birds

they saw while on census.

Owl monitoring is still quite slow. We have been catching a single Saw-whet owl to a couple every night. This fall is our pilot year for our Long-eared Owl monitoring program. So far, this program has been doing well, as we have caught a few Long-eared owls already this fall. We also hosted the Junior Forest Wardens one evening this past week. We did not catch any owls while



A Northern Saw-whet Owl!

the group was here, but all the boys seemed to enjoy their time at BBO running around and playing outside between net checks.

The owl interns Jeremy and John have been out a few times to experience all the owl magic. Unfortunately, Stephanie the songbird intern, has only been able to come out once because we have been unable to open nets due to weather. Hopefully the weather will work in her favour for next week.

Thankfully near the end of the week we had a couple of weather days which was nice for staff to catch up on all their office tasks which got behind due to the high number of captures this week.

Thank you to all our volunteers who continue to support the BBO including, Al, John, Rose, Geoff, Helen, Irene, Don, Pat and Carol.

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	1					1
American Redstart	2					2
Black-capped Chickadee	2	2	1		2	7
Blackpoll Warbler	2					2
Blue-headed Vireo	1					1
Blue Jay					1	1
Clay-colored Sparrow	1					1
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
Downy Woodpecker	1	1	1			3
Hairy Woodpecker	1		1			2
Hermit Thrush	1					1
House Wren	1		2			3
Least Flycatcher	1					1
Magnolia Warbler	4					4
Myrtle Warbler	428	3			6	437
Orange-crowned Warbler	65				2	67
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6				1	7
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	6				1	7
Slate-colored Junco	5					5
Swainson's Thrush	5		1			6
Tennessee Warbler	4				1	5
Western Palm Warbler	35	1				36
White-breasted Nuthatch	1					1
White-crowned Sparrow					1	1
White-throated Sparrow	3					3
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Yellow Warbler	1					1
Total	580	7	6	0	15	608

		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).
Net Hours: 224.75		3 Banded at a location other than the BBO
Capture Rate: 270.52/100hrs		4 Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	9					9
Long-eared Owl	4	2				6
Total	13	2	0	0	0	15

Net Hours: 176.75

Capture Rate: 8.487/100 hrs

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).