

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update September 20-26

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Black-throated Green Warbler

There have been a few cool mornings this week, and we have seen a few big pushes of birds migrating through the natural area. Songbird capture rates, especially Yellow-rumped Warblers, have picked up this week. Some exciting captures were a Black-throated Green Warbler and a Townsend's Solitaire, both of which are rare visitors to the area. We also caught our second Northern Flicker (Yellow Shafted) of the year. Other exciting captures include a Nashville Warbler, 5 Hermit Thrush, a Blue-headed Vireo, a Marsh Wren, and a Sedge Wren.

The owl season is in full swing, with owl banding events starting this week. Staff hosted 50 people each night for two Supper and Saw-whets events, where they cooked dinner for the guests and provided interpretation and banding demonstrations. Additionally, ticketed owl banding

events started this week. These events host 20 visitors 4 nights per week for owl banding demonstrations and interpretation. Thankfully, the owls have started moving through, and capture rates have picked up just in time for the events to start. A total of 20 owls were captured this week – 19 Saw-whets and 1 Long-eared. Also just in time for events to start, Beaverhill Bird Observatory hats are now available! Myrthe painted a beautiful Northern Saw-whet owl and, with the help of a volunteer graphic designer, designed the new hats. They are available in olive and maroon colours.



Townsend's Solitaire



Northern Saw-whet Owl

1 Capture totals for the standard nets

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Black-capped Chickadee	3	6				9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3					3
Tennessee Warbler	2					2
Myrtle Warbler	47	6			1	54
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2					2
Orange-crowned Warbler	5					5
Hermit Thrush	3					3
Western Palm Warbler	2					2
Townsend's Solitaire	1					1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	1					1
White-throated Sparrow	1					1
Slate-colored Junco	1					1
White-breasted Nuthatch		1				1
Nashville Warbler	1					1
Totals	72	13	0	0	1	86

Net hours: 422.5

Capture Rate: 20 captures/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).

2 Capture totals for the Experimental nets

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Black-capped Chickadee	8	10			1	19
Orange-crowned Warbler	25					25
Myrtle Warbler	111	8				119
Blue-headed Vireo	1					1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	1				5
Clay-colored Sparrow	2					2
Western Palm Warbler	5					5
Sedge Wren	1					1
Marsh Wren	1					1
Hermit Thrush	2					2
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
Black-throated Green Warbler	1					1
Totals	163	19	0	0	1	183

Net hours: 140

Capture Rate: 131 captures/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).

3 Capture totals for the owl nets

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl (M)	13	2				15
Northern Saw-whet Owl (F)	4					4
Long-eared Owl	1					1
Totals	18	2	0	0	0	20

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: 36 captures/100 net-hours

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

NSWO Female

Lure Playback Hours: 41

Capture Rate: 10 captures/100 net-hours

Long-Eared Owl

Playback Hours: 29

Capture Rate: 3 captures/100 net-hours