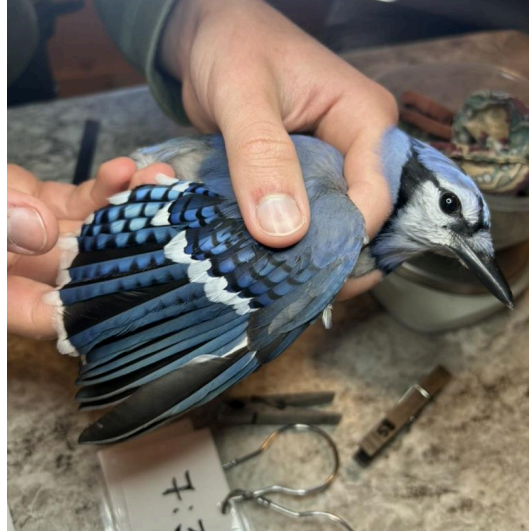


Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update September 13-19, 2026

Many notable things happened this week at the Beaverhill Bird Observatory! Our fall songbird Migration Monitoring saw its first large rushes of Myrtle Warblers, with 66 captures on September 15th! Bleeding over from the previous week, we also had our largest night of owl banding and caught 9 owls on the night from September 12th-13th. Fortune certainly favoured us, and this proved itself again in the form of a handful of spectacular captures: a Winter Wren (the 6th one ever captured at the BBO), a Fox Sparrow, a Swamp Sparrow, a Nelson's Sparrow, and a Blue Jay! Overall, we caught 255 songbirds and 27 owls (Table 1; Table 2).



Blue Jays, with their stunning plumage, are a rare sight at the BBO!



We caught this adorable Fox Sparrow on September 15th!

We are in the thick of our fall event season, with the majority of days featuring an owl banding event, songbird banding event, or both! We are thrilled to be able to share our love for birds with so many enthusiastic visitors. Accompanying us on our Saturday owl banding events is Dr. Juan Pablo (JP) Medina, an ornithologist with decades of experience researching owls and other birds. We are so grateful to have JP come and share his wealth of knowledge with us and our guests!

Besides banding and events, our days were filled with tasks characteristic of fall. We repaired and replaced some Tree Swallow and owl nest boxes, serviced our trail cameras, and began preparations for next weekend's large annual event, *Supper & Saw-whets!*

The Beaverhill Bird Observatory is overflowing with wonderful volunteers. This week, we also re-welcomed Jacob Mendonca, a long-term volunteer who spent a few days with us this spring! Heartfelt 'thank-you's go out to our volunteers from the week: Bannor, Sarah, Gabby, Yohana, Irene, Dani, Kelsey, Liam, Jordyn, Kalia, Adara, and JP.

Table 1. Songbird Migration Monitoring Totals

<i>Species Name</i>	Banded	Repeat ¹	Unbanded ²	Grand Total
Black-capped Chickadee	6	5		11
Blackpoll Warbler	1			1
Blue Jay	1			1
Common Yellowthroat	3			3
Fox Sparrow	1			1
Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow	2	1		3
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1			1
Least Flycatcher	2			2
Lincoln's Sparrow	4			4
Magnolia Warbler	1			1
Myrtle Warbler	156	1	1	158
Nelson's Sparrow	1			1
Northern House Wren	2	1		3
Orange-crowned Warbler	29			29
Ovenbird	2			2
Red-eyed Vireo	1			1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9		1	10
Slate-colored Junco	3	1		4
Swainson's Thrush	4			4
Swamp Sparrow	1			1
Tennessee Warbler	2			2
Western Palm Warbler	1			1
White-throated Sparrow	6			6
Winter Wren	1			1
Yellow Warbler	4			4
Grand Total	244	9	2	255

¹Banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO²Caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

Total net-hours: 535

47.7 birds/100 net-hours

Table 2. Owl Migration Monitoring Totals

<i>Species</i>	Captures
Northern Saw-whet Owl	27
Grand Total	27

NSWO Male 1 (19 captures)
39.5 playback hours
48.1 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Male 2 (4 captures)
39.5 playback hours
10.1 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Female (4 captures)
35 playback hours
11.4 captures/100 playback hours

Long-eared Owl (0 captures)
35.5 playback hours
0 captures/100 playback hours