

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Update, September 16th to 30th, 2013



It was another successful end of the month at the BBO! A grand total of 229 birds were caught in the last two weeks, the majority of them being Myrtle Warblers and Orange-Crowned Warblers. Even with dropping temperatures and strong winds delaying our opening of nets, a lot of exciting birds have been caught these past couple of weeks. We caught our first Long-Eared Owl of the season, three Brown Creepers and we had one extremely exciting day where we only caught nine birds, two of them were Sharp-Shinned Hawks! The staff were thrilled to have such an exciting morning and Sara Pearce Meijerink was extremely pleased to point out that this made our catch rate of the day to be 22% Sharp-Shinned Hawks!

ul Long-Eared
owl!

Tons of large flocks have been flying through the natural area and on a daily basis were counting hundreds and hundreds of geese. Snow Geese, Ross Geese, Canada Geese, White-Fronted Geese, Tundra Swans, and Sandhill Cranes have been seen migrating through. The geese have also been spending many evenings on Lister Lake, which is located just to the south of BBO, and while conducting owl banding, the staff could hear them all night long. As for the owl banding, we have had two good nights with eight owls in a row but otherwise the numbers have been low for this time of the year. Still, we have caught 36 Northern Saw-Whet Owls in the last two weeks, which brings our total up to forty owls!

Maintenance at the BBO continues and the painting in the Nuthatch Nest is finally complete as well as all 122 bird boxes have been numbered and many of them have been put up.

Many visitors and volunteers have spent time at the banding station and help us out this month! So thank you to; Irene Crosland, Sian Ford and her mother, Gerry Beyersbergen, Helen Trefry, Kevin Methuen, Ashley Hillman, Beth McLarnon, Thea Carpenter, Allyn Esau, Anna Daku, Rowan French, Meaghan, Rachelle, Michelle, David, Katie, Julia Sonfield, the Girl Guides, the Cubs, the Tofield Outdoors Club, Chris Wohl and Shane Carey. Also, a big thank you to Lisa Priestly, Chuck Priestly, Jim Beck and Geoff Holroyd for assisting us with Northern Saw-Whet Owl banding! We would couldn't do it without you!



An unimpressed Sharp-Shinned Hawk

Table 1. Results from Songbird Banding September 16 to 30th, 2013

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	2	0	0	0	0	2
American Robin	1	0	0	0	0	1
Black-capped Chickadee	2	10	1	0	0	13
Brown Creeper	3	0	0	0	0	3
Common Yellowthroat	1	0	0	0	0	1
Downy Woodpecker	0	2	0	0	0	2
Hairy Woodpecker	0	1	1	0	0	2
Hermit Thrush	3	0	0	0	1	4
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Myrtle Warbler	67	1	0	0	0	68
Northern Flicker	2	0	0	0	0	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	20	0	0	0	1	21
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	0	0	0	0	4
Savannah Sparrow	2	0	0	0	0	2
Sharp Shinned Hawk	1	0	0	0	0	1
Slate-colored Junco	9	1	0	0	1	11
Swainson's Thrush	1	0	0	0	0	1
Swamp Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tennessee Warbler	0	1	0	0	0	1
Western Palm Warbler	3	0	0	0	0	3
White Breasted Nuthatch	2	2	0	0	0	4
White-Crowned Sparrow	0	0	0	0	1	1
White-throated Sparrow	6	0	0	0	0	6
Willow Flycatcher	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	132	18	2	0	4	156

Net Hours: 639.5 NH

Capture Rate: 24.39 birds/ 100 NH

- Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO.
- 1 Banded at the BBO > 90 days prior to recapture (e.g. in a previous year).
 - 2 Banded at a location other than the BBO
 - 3 Caught in a mist-net but not banded
 - 4 (e.g. escaped net).

Table 2. Results from Songbird Banding in Nets 50 & 51, September 16 to 30th, 2013

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Black-capped Chickadee	2	5	0	0	0	7
Clay-colored Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Downy Woodpecker	1	1	0	0	0	2
Myrtle Warbler	32	1	0	0	0	33
Orange-crowned Warbler	14	0	0	0	0	14
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2	0	0	0	0	2
Western Palm Warbler	1	0	0	0	0	1
White-crowned Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Slate-Colored Junco	7	0	0	0	2	9
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sharp Shinned Hawk	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total	64	7	0	0	2	73

Net Hours: 111.9 NH

Capture Rate: 64.34 birds/ 100 NH

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).