

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update

October 21th - 31th, 2019

This week was spent banding our owls and getting caught up on the data. Songbirds is done for the season so staff spent their days seeking shelter indoors at the Tofield Library or Trefry farm to charge audio lure batteries while completing data entry tasks.

Two nights we were unable to open our owl nets due to high winds, but with the other 8 nights we caught a total of 69 Northern Saw-whet Owls, 4 Long-eared Owls, 2 Boreal Owls and 1 Great-horned Owl!!! What a wicked couple of days!!!



*Photos Top Left to Right:
Great Horned Owl, Boreal
Owl, and Long-eared Owl*

*Bottom Photo: Northern Saw-
Whet Owl*

On October
31st Al DeGrout came out
to help take down our

solar pannels. With snow in the forecast, we won't be open for much longer so it's time to start packing down the lab. Not only was the solar power removed this week, but staff have also started packing down the lab interior by removing items off of the bookshelves and storage shelves inside and from the tool shed.

Staff also spent a couple different afternoons repairing owl nets after our beloved resident Northern Flying Squirrels hit them and chewed through the shelf lines... thank you squirrels?!

Thanks as well to all the visitors and volunteers that decided to join us this week; Irene, Natasha, Ethan, Denis, John, Stephanie and her grandparents, and Martijn!

Species	Banded	Repeat1	Return2	Foreign3	Other4	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	62	1				63
Long-eared Owl	4					4
Boreal Owl	2					2
Great Horned Owl	1					1
TOTALS	69	1	0	0	0	70

Net Hours: 420 hrs

Capture rate: 17.5 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).