

Beaverhill Bird Observatory Weekly Update

November 1st - 7th, 2019

Fifteen owls were captured and banded during our final week at the BBO. Thirteen Saw-whet Owls (one was a foreign recapture, so not banded at the BBO! Exciting!), a Long-eared Owl and a Boreal Owl. We were happy to host the Augustana Wildlife Society as well as NAIT Bio Sci Club out for owls, along with our many visiting general public.

This week Sara, our head biologist, was the only remaining staff member on site as Christian and Jac have left the BBO to continue their winter adventures and we wish them both luck! To cover her days off, Christian, Josue, Geoff and Irene, kindly helped cover a couple of owl shifts to make sure our migration monitoring continued as long as possible! On November 7th, freezing rain was in the forecast, along with a heavy snowfall forecasted over the weekend, so the decision was made to shut down the lab for the season. New volunteer John along with Jeremy were thankfully on site to help with the end of season pack down.

Sara spent much of her time this week packing the lab, completing office tasks, attending meetings, and providing an educational presentation as now, our **BirdSmart Education Program** is up and running! With Karambir and Stephanie hired once more for the winter months, we have November fully booked with presentations and the rest of the winter is booking up quickly.



Jeremy with the last owl banded of the 2019 season!

Our BirdSmart Education Program brings live education owls into the classrooms to teach students about birds conservation and climate change. If you would like an owl to attend your school or event, please contact us at education@beaverhillbirds.com

It has been another amazing year of banding at the BBO. With great visitors and volunteers joining us in our work, we feel so privileged to be a part of this community and to continue spreading the word about the importance of bird and environmental conservation. While we are sad to say goodbye for now, we look forward to seeing you all again next year! Have a safe and happy winter everyone!

Species	Banded	Repeat1	Return2	Foreign3	Other4	Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	10	2		1		13
Long-eared Owl	1					1
Boreal Owl	1					1
TOTALS	12	2	0	1	0	15

Net Hours: 232.0 hrs

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

Capture rate: 6.47 birds/100 net hours

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).