

## Beaverhill Bird Observatory

### Weekly Update October 19<sup>th</sup> – October 25<sup>th</sup>

This week marked a sad milestone – the BBO’s songbird migration monitoring nets closed for the last time on October 19<sup>th</sup>. The nets were only able to open briefly, but that didn’t stop a few chickadees from getting caught while they were up. With this week included we had 1121 total captures on fall migration this year, and 1961 captures including birds caught in our experimental nets. Staff were delighted to have such a wonderful fall banding season after a spring migration that was one of our lowest ever. Our daily census counts remained active this week, interesting sightings included thousands of Snow Geese flying overhead and a Northern Shrike hanging around the forest!

While BBO staff were eager as ever to band owls this week, mother nature had other plans. Several consecutive days of wind and rain prevented our nets from opening or shut them down prematurely. But where some see poor weather, BBO staff see opportunity! Fuelled by caffeinated beverages and Broadway music, staff and volunteers caught up on data entry and double checking! The week luckily ended on a high note in terms of owl captures as staff caught 10 Northern Saw-whet Owls and a Long-eared Owl on the 25<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you to our volunteers this week: Charles, Tyson, Megan, and Alisa! Thank you to the Girl Guide group who came out as well for your help mending bird bags and moving our woodpile!



Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

<b>Species</b>	<b>Banded</b>	<b>Repeat<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Foreign<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Other<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Black-capped Chickadee	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

9 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

33.3 captures/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).

Table 2. Owl Monitoring Banding Totals

<b>Species</b>	<b>Banded</b>	<b>Repeat<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Foreign<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Other<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Northern Saw-whet Owl	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>21</b>
Long-eared Owl	<b>1</b>					<b>1</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>

109 playback hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

20.2 captures/100 playback 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).