

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update August 17-23, 2024



Connecticut Warblers are similar to two other gray-hooded warblers: Mourning Warblers and MacGillivray's Warblers. Connecticut's are reliably distinguished by their complete white eye ring!

Quality over quantity is a great description of this week's captures. With frequent bouts of wind and rain, staff were forced to close nets prematurely on many mornings. Nevertheless, we caught some very fun species as migrating birds from the boreal forest begin to trickle through the natural area. An abundance of warbler species including several Canada Warblers, a Wilson's Warbler, and a Connecticut Warbler were among the highlights. The Connecticut Warbler in particular is a rare capture at the BBO which made for some excited banders that morning!

While the diversity of migrating species was exciting, it was somewhat bittersweet as many of our beloved local breeders began departing for their wintering grounds. Most of the Tree Swallows have moved on, and the forest is noticeably quieter without the usual morning chorus of birdsong.

When banding was not occurring, staff kept themselves busy this week with mowing and maintaining the trails in the natural area. As well, the owl banding season will soon be upon us! The BBO bands owls from September 1 until early-mid November, which is always a very exciting time

of year! The owl net lanes were cleared of debris and the poles for the nets were set up this week. Even though it feels like the field season just begun, somehow it's already nearly September!

Thank you to our volunteers this week: Jay, Adara, Matt, David, Willow, and Gabby. Your help keeping things at the BBO running smoothly is greatly appreciated!



Wilson's Warblers are among the smallest warblers we capture, making them even more cute. This young male was happy to show off his black cap.

Table 1. Standard Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Black-and-white Warbler	2					2
Bay-breasted Warbler	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee		6				6
Canada Warbler	3					3
Common Yellowthroat	2					2
Downy Woodpecker	2	1				3
Least Flycatcher	18	1			1	20
Ovenbird	4					4
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1					1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird					1	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk					1	1
Swainson's Thrush	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	14	3				17
Trail's Flycatcher	4					4
Warbling Vireo	1					1
White-throated Sparrow		1				1
Yellow Warbler	3					3
TOTALS	56	12	0	0	3	71

516.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

13.7 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. Experimental Nets Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Goldfinch	1					1
American Redstart	6					6
Black-and-white Warbler	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee	3	3	1			7
Blue-headed Vireo	1					1

Canada Warbler	1					1
Clay-colored Sparrow	11	1				12
Chipping Sparrow	1					1
Connecticut Warbler	1					1
Common Yellowthroat	1					1
House Wren	8	1				9
Least Flycatcher	32	2			1	35
Magnolia Warbler	3					3
Ovenbird	1					1
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
Song Sparrow	2					2
Tennessee Warbler	16	7				23
Trail's Flycatcher	15	2			1	18
Warbling Vireo	1					1
Wilson's Wabler	1					1
Yellow Warbler	28	1				29
TOTALS	135	17	1	0	2	155

101.5 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

152.7 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).