

# Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly update - September 14th to 20th, 2024



This Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) weighed less than a pencil at just 5 grams.

The impressive migration of Myrtle Warblers picked up significantly this week with several days where the forest was practically dripping with this species. On the 16th alone we caught 80 butterbutts (an affectionate nickname for Myrtle Warblers) with at least 60 more roving the area in energetic flocks alongside chickadees and nuthatches. Despite all this, Myrtles were not our most common capture as that title goes to the hundreds of leaves that blew into our nets. Besides that, this week saw some fun catches including the second Hermit Thrush of the year and the smallest songbird in Alberta, the Golden-crowned Kinglet!

The owl banding operations also boasted some exciting captures. These include 12 Northern Saw-whet Owls, the most of any week so far, and the first Long-eared owl of the year, shortly followed by five more. Nanotags deployed on several more Saw-whets and for the very first time this week a nanotag was deployed aboard a Long-eared Owl!



Tansi is equal parts adorable and grumpy!

Our event for both songbirds and owls continued this week. The final set of songbird events were held this week with the very last event being hosted for Lakeland College. On the other hand, owl events are just getting into the swing! As the weather shifts towards the chill of fall our ambassador birds were swapped out for the warmly dressed Tansi the Great-horned Owl.



Long-eared Owls (*Asio otus*) are known for their perpetually surprised face.

<i>Standard Nets</i>					
<i>Species Code</i>	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Unbanded <sup>3</sup>	Grand Total
Black-capped Chickadee	1	10	2		13
Downy Woodpecker	1		1		2
White-crowned Sparrow	2				2
Hermit Thrush	1				1
House Wren		1			1
Myrtle Warbler	161	9		2	172
Orange-crowned Warbler	13				13
Ovenbird	3			1	4
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2				2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1				1
Tennessee Warbler	1				1
White-throated Sparrow	2				2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>214</b>

528 net-hours

40.5 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO  
 2 - banded over 90 days ago, at the BBO  
 3 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

<i>Standard Nets</i>					
<i>Species Code</i>	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Return <sup>2</sup>	Unbanded <sup>3</sup>	Grand Total
Black-capped Chickadee	2	5			7
Clay-coloured Sparrow			1	1	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1				1
White-crowned Sparrow	2				2
LeConte's Sparrow	1				1
Lincoln's Sparrow	2				2
Magnolia Warbler	1				1
Myrtle Warbler	59	5		1	65
Orange-crowned Warbler	18	1			19
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	7				7
Tennessee Warbler	2				2
Palm Warbler	3				3
White-throated Sparrow	1	1			2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>114</b>

141 net-hours

80.9 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO  
 2 - banded over 90 days ago, at the BBO  
 3 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

<i>Standard Nets</i>			
<i>Species Code</i>	Banded	Repeat <sup>1</sup>	Grand Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	11	1	12
Long-eared Owl	6		6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>

**NSWO Male 1** (9 captures)

33.5 playback hours

26.9 captures/100 playback hours

**NSWO Male 2** (6 captures)

33.5 playback hours

17.9 captures/100 playback hours

**NSWO Female** (3 captures)

33.5 playback hours

9.0 captures/100 playback hours

**Long-eared Owl** (0 captures)

30 playback hours

0 captures/100 playback hours