

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update - September 21 - September 27, 2024

This week at the BBO saw songbirds in low numbers, as fall migration continues to push through. Collectively, this week had 195 captures in 599.5 net hours for both standard and experimental nets. Despite the low volume, some interesting captures were had, including an Oregon subspecies of Dark-eyed Junco. Yellow-rumped Warblers are still the most common capture, late-fall arrivals like the American Tree Sparrow were visitors this week, and the first Hermit Thrush of the year arrived. Interestingly, a House Wren was caught this week – much later in the season than expected for a local migrant breeder.



The first Hermit Thrush of the year

Owl banding is picking up quickly, with 76 captures in 137.5 playback hours. The season has seen 99 Northern Saw-whet captures so far, with October looking promising for higher numbers. Owls are continuing to be fitted with nanotags for MOTUS tracking, increasing the sample size for that project at the BBO.



The annual Supper and Saw-whets event was a great success on the night of Friday, September 27. After a delicious meal provided by volunteers, visitors learned about Northern Saw-whet Owls, the banding process, and the BBO throughout the night. The event brought good luck, and 21 Saw-whet Owls were captured, much to the delight of everyone in attendance.

Northern Saw-whet Owl, being released off of a visitor's arm!

STANDARD NET TOTALS:

<i>Species Code</i>	Banded	Repeat ¹	Unbanded ²	Grand Total
ATSP	1			1
BCCH	2	4	1	7
DOWO		2		2
HOWR	1			1
LISP	1			1
MYWA	67	12		79
OCWA	1			1
RBNU	1			1
SCJU	2			2
SSHA	1			1
WPWA	1			1
WTSP	4			4
	82	18	1	101

462 net-hours

21.9 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO

2 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

EXPERIMENTAL NET TOTALS

<i>Species Code</i>	Banded	Repeat ¹	Unbanded ²	Grand Total
ATSP	2			2
BCCH	2	3	1	6
COYE	1			1
DOWO		1		1
GCKI	2			2
GWCS	7			7
HETH	1			1
HOWR	2			2
MYWA	48	5	1	54
NAWA	1			1
OCWA	4		1	5
ORJU	1			1
RCKI	3			3
SCJU	3		1	4
SOSP	1			1
WIWA	1			1
WPWA	1			1
WTSP	1			1
Grand Total	81	9	4	94

137.5 net-hours

68.4 captures/100 net-hours

1 - banded 90 or fewer days ago, at the BBO

2 - caught but not banded (e.g. escaped)

OWL NET TOTALS

<i>Species Code</i>	<i># of Captures</i>			<i>Grand Total</i>
	<i>Banded</i>	<i>Return¹</i>	<i>Unbanded²</i>	
LEOW		1		1
NSWO	73	1	1	75
Grand Total	74	1	1	76

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

NSWO Male (67 captures)

78 playback hours

85.9 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Female (8 captures)

30 playback hours

26.7 captures/100 playback hours

Long-eared Owl (1 capture)

29.5 playback hours

3.4 captures/100 playback hours