

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update - November 2 - 8, 2024

It's with heavy hearts that we closed out the field season, with our last night of owl banding on November 7th. Our last week was slow, as expected this late in the year, but was still successful in our captures. In total, we captured 11 Northern Saw-whet Owls, and, excitingly, three Boreal Owls! Last season's single Boreal Owl was shown up by the five we captured over this season. The high numbers are on par with other stations, who have also been reporting higher numbers of Boreal Owls than typical. The last night of banding was especially thrilling, with two Boreal Owls and one Northern Saw-whet Owl. The Boreal Owls arrived in tandem, one female and one male. It was a great way to end the amazing banding season!



Boreal Owls (Left to right: female, male)



Northern Saw-whet Owl

The staff spent the last week preparing to close the field site for the winter, doing lab maintenance and various trail maintenance. Additionally, lots of preparation was done for the upcoming BirdSmart program, which runs from November to April. The presentation schedule looks to be busy already, promising a fun and productive winter, alongside data entry, data analysis, and other tasks!

Overall, the Spring, Summer, and Fall banding programs were incredibly successful, with many interesting captures, events for the public, and projects completed. The staff are eager to head into the Winter education program, officially beginning November 15th.

OWL NET TOTALS

Species Code	# of Captures			
	Repeat ¹	Banded	Grand Total	
BOOW			3	3
NSWO		1	10	11
Grand Total		1	13	14

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

NSWO Male (10 captures)

72 playback hours

13.9 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Female (1 capture)

36 playback hours

2.8 captures/100 playback hours

Long-eared Owl (0 captures)

24.5 playback hours

0 captures/100 playback hours

Boreal Owl (3 captures)

36 playback hours

8.3 captures/100 playback hours