

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update July 30 – August 8, 2025



This stunning Long-eared Owl was an amazing and unexpected capture, hopefully more will be caught this fall!

check, we caught a female Long-eared Owl! Normally we don't get to see these beautiful birds until we begin owl monitoring in the fall, and we were all completely thrilled to catch her! An added handful of Swamp Sparrows and a Waxwing ensured our last day of MAPS was a memorable one.

Outside of banding, much staff time has been spent prepping for our Young Ornithologists' workshop starting next week! We'll be hosting 10 youth for a week of bird banding, bird surveys, and other nature nerd fun! The lab has been tidied, the clearing mowed to accommodate more tents, and non-standard net lanes set up for added banding variety. Here's hoping it's another great workshop this year!

As we enter into the month of August, migrant birds from the northern boreal forest have started to trickle their way into our nets. Migration monitoring this week saw our first of a few boreal species: namely Myrtle Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, and Northern Waterthrush. These early arrivals were a welcome boost as migration banding was overall quite slow this week. Maybe it was the hot weather early in the week, or maybe it was the dreary weather later in the week that kept our capture rates down. Either way, we're hoping things pick up a bit soon!

This week also marked the end of our MAPS monitoring program for the season. BLAB and SOPO were slow, and mostly populated by the baby Yellow Warblers and Least Flycatchers we see so many of at this time of year. Our last day of MAPS at LILA however was a special treat. On our very first net



This adorable Northern Waterthrush was our first taste of the migration that is coming our way (hopefully).

Thank you to our volunteers this week: Maud, Mariana, Jacqueline, Adara, Stefanie, Gabby, Kelsey, and Hazel! We couldn't run this station without help from people like you!

Table 1. Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Alder Flycatcher	2					2
American Goldfinch	1					1
Black-and-white Warbler	1					1
Black-capped Chickadee	5	9				14
Clay-colored Sparrow	13	1			1	15
Common Yellowthroat	2					2
Downy Woodpecker		1	1			2
Gray Catbird		1				1
Least Flycatcher	59	25			1	85
Marsh Wren	1					1
Myrtle Warbler	2					2
Northern House Wren	12	9				21
Northern Waterthrush	2					2
Red-eyed Vireo	1					1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird					1	1
Savannah Sparrow	1					1
Song Sparrow	1					1
Tennessee Warbler	4					4
Traill's Flycatcher	5	1				6
Warbling Vireo	7	1				8
Yellow Warbler	33	11				44
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	2				4
TOTALS	154	61	1	0	3	219

712 net-hours

30.8 captures/100 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

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. BLAB Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
American Robin		1				1
Black-capped Chickadee	1	1				2
Least Flycatcher	3	1				4
TOTALS	4	3	0	0	0	7

60 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

11.7 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 3. SOPO Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Return ²	Foreign ³	Other ⁴	Total
Downy Woodpecker	1					1
Least Flycatcher	13	1				14
Black-capped Chickadee	3	1				4
House Wren	1					1
Warbling Vireo	4					4
Yellow Warbler	9	1				10
Clay-colored Sparrow		1				1
TOTALS	31	4	0	0	0	35

47 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

74.5 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 4. LILA Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat¹	Return²	Foreign³	Other⁴	Total
Trail's Flycatcher	1					1
Least Flycatcher	10	1				11
Black-capped Chickadee	2					2
House Wren	1					1
Cedar Waxwing	1					1
Warbling Vireo	4	2				6
Yellow Warbler	18					18
Song Sparrow	3					3
White-throated Sparrow			1			1
American Goldfinch	1					1
Swamp Sparrow	2	1				3
Long-eared Owl	1					1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1					1
Gray Catbird	1					1
TOTALS	46	4	1	0	0	51

48 net-hours

106.3 captures/100 net-hours

1 Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO

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).