

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update August 16-22, 2025

Following the hustle and bustle of last week's Young Ornithologist Workshop, the folks at the BBO have readjusted to their normal falltime routines - but with a twist. This week, songbird migration monitoring has been accompanied by owl banding! Yes, you read that right, owl banding in August! This experimental early start to owl monitoring has produced very encouraging results; three Northern Saw-whet Owls and two Long-eared Owls have already been captured in the four evenings of non-standard owl banding.

Owls are truly showing up everywhere! A Long-eared Owl was even captured during songbird banding on August 20th! What makes this even more remarkable was that this LEOW was a recapture, marking the *first recaptured Long-eared Owl at/associated with the BBO* since the inception of owl banding here in 2018!!



One of our new long-term volunteers, Anna, holding the recaptured LEOW!

Banding highlights and bird sightings from the week leave little to be desired! Warblers are certainly on the move, and we banded fall migration's first Canada Warbler and American Redstart this week! Sightings from the clearing include a Black-throated Green warbler, Western Tanager, a Blue-headed Vireo, and a Ferruginous Hawk!

On August 17th, we welcomed two new long-term volunteers, friends Anna and Aaron from California! Anna was a Young Ornithologist in 2024, and Aaron is an exceptional and experienced birder! Both of them have already dazzled the staff with their banding skills and enthusiasm, and we look very forward to the weeks to come!

Thank you to our volunteer, Matt Halfacre, for helping with banding on August 16th!



An adorable Canada Warbler strikes a confident pose for the camera!

Table 1. Fall Migration Monitoring Banding Totals

Species	Banded	Repeat ¹	Unbanded ²	Grand Total
Alder Flycatcher	1			1
American Redstart	8			8
Black-and-white Warbler	4			4
Black-capped Chickadee	10	4		14
Canada Warbler	1			1
Clay-colored Sparrow	6		1	7
Common Yellowthroat	1			1
Least Flycatcher	47	8	1	56
Lincoln's Sparrow	2			2
Long-eared Owl		1		1
Magnolia Warbler	2		1	3
Marsh Wren	1			1
Northern House Wren	1	2		3
Northern Waterthrush	1			1
Ovenbird	4			4
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			4	4
Song Sparrow	2			2
Swainson's Thrush	6			6
Tennessee Warbler	1			1
Trail's Flycatcher	14			14
White-throated Sparrow	1			1
Wilson's Warbler	1			1
Yellow Warbler	17	3		20
Grand Total	131	18	7	156

1 - Banded recently (within 90 days) at the BBO.

2 - Caught in a mist-net but not banded (e.g. escaped net).

Total Net-hours: 518.5

30.09 captures/100 net-hours