

Beaverhill Bird Observatory

Weekly Update October 17 - October 23, 2025

It's difficult to believe that we've already reached the end of fall Songbird Migration Monitoring! It is less difficult, however, to believe that the final capture of the year was a Black-capped Chickadee. In the final four days of migration monitoring, which were plagued with wind and negative temperatures, (October 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th), a mere 14 birds were caught (Table 1).

On the flip side, this week's owl captures have been more satisfying at 52 (Table 2). October 19th marked the last owl banding event hosted by the BBO for 2025. Luckily, the attendees were able to meet and learn about five adorable Northern Saw-whet Owls, be captivated by Tansi, and marvel at the night sky!

With the many hallmarks of a closing field season, staff have spent their time finishing reports and data entry, packing up our nets and banding supplies, and getting excited for another season of BirdSmart presentations!

We had the pleasure of having four volunteers stay with us over the weekend! Holly, Mikayla, Shaelyn, and Xavier's friend, Justin, all joined the biologists and were an absolute delight to have helping with the final events of the year! Devastatingly, this weekend also marked the final official weekend that Xavier spent at the BBO. As the season wraps up, he will be able to focus solely on his schooling until the spring when, thankfully, he'll be returning to the field with us! So many amazing volunteers help us at the Beaverhill Bird Observatory, and gratitude is given here to this week's volunteers K, Irene, Emily, Camille, and Jay!



This Black-capped Chickadee was the final bird caught during this year's fall migration monitoring.

Table 1. Migration Monitoring Totals

Species Name	Banded	Repeat ¹	Grand Total
American Tree Sparrow	2		2
Black-capped Chickadee		8	8

Downy Woodpecker		1	1
Slate-colored Junco	2		2
White-breasted Nuthatch		1	1
Grand Total	4	10	14

1 - Banded $\geq$ 90 days ago at the BBO.

Net hours: 115

12.17 captures/100 net-hours

Table 2. Owl Banding Totals

<i>Species Name</i>	Banded	Foreign ¹	Grand Total
Northern Saw-whet Owl	50	2	52
Grand Total	50	2	52

1 - Banded at a location other than the BBO.

NSWO Male 1 (24 captures)

44.5 playback hours

53.9 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Male 2 (18 captures)

45 playback hours

40 captures/100 playback hours

NSWO Female (3 captures)

40 playback hours

7.5 captures/100 playback hours

Long-eared Owl (0 captures)

44 playback hours

0 captures/100 playback hours

Boreal Owl (7 captures)

45.5 playback hours

15.4 captures/100 playback hours