

Under present rules an OR station must be within 50 miles of the coast. But a station operating 100 or even 500 miles inland can make a tremendous contribution if it adheres to the same rules and routine of a coastal station and operates over a reasonably good stretch of the fall migration.

For this reason banders shouldn't be too discouraged if they are unable to make the coast. But for those banders who can get to the coast, opportunity is indeed unlimited.

17 Liberty Street, Nantucket, Mass.

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#### MIST NETTING AT TUCKERTON, N. J.

By Frank P. Frazier, Jr.

On October 10, 11 and 12, 1958, Joe Jehl and I banded with nets at Tuckerton, N. J., along the Great Bay Boulevard, a road running from the town of Tuckerton out to the shore, its outer half surrounded by extensive salt marshes. This section of the road is bordered by an almost unbroken line of bayberry and other bushes, averaging about six to eight feet high and six to ten feet wide. These lines of bushes are used as a flight lane by large numbers of migrating birds which come in at night, perhaps from Beach Haven, as they work their way inland, feeding on the way.

We set between three and ten nets, at various times, across these lines of bushes toward the outer end, using natural breaks or cutting away enough room for the net. We then walked down the road, beating the bushes, and herded the birds along into the nets. Unfortunately, there was a strong wind blowing during most of the weekend, which greatly reduced the catching efficiency of the nets, and far more birds hit and bounced out than were caught. However, we banded 119 birds of 23 species, of which 49 were Myrtle Warblers. Sparrows were well represented, with nine species: 15 Song, 14 White-throats, and one to four each of Savannah, Grasshopper, Sharptail, Junco, Field, White-crown and Swamp. Three Grasshopper Sparrows were banded, which seems to be an interesting record. One Sharptail was taken which was later proved to be the James Bay subspecies (*Ammodramus caudacuta altera*).

Providing that the hunting club which owns this property does not trim the bushes too drastically, this location seems worthy of more extensive banding in connection with Operation Recovery. It is an ideal netting situation, with the added benefit of the possibility of beating the bushes to herd birds into the nets, which is not practicable at most other netting locations. The area can profitably take up to fifty or more nets, given sufficient banders to handle them, and on days with little wind great numbers of birds would be netted.

Upper Montclair, N. J.

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