

forms already have a system for informing the Patuxent computer which days they banded, and during which hours, and what their normal pattern of captures is throughout the day. If station "M" operates all day on some days and only until 10 a.m. on other days, the computer can be programmed to detect this irregularity and either to disregard all bandings after 10 a.m. or compensate for the daily variations in activity. If foul weather forces closing nets for much of the day, this too can be detected by the computer and the resulting small samples can be identified or disregarded.

A new daily banding activity form developed by Ted Van Velzen was tested at Ocean City this fall and will be available to O.R. banders next fall. By means of this form, local weather conditions, time of opening and closing nets, and other pertinent information concerning netting effort will become a matter of permanent record. This form will, if properly filled out, provide information from which the new computer can compensate for the major difficulties mentioned by Mrs. Warburton and thus permit the O.R. banding data to be analyzed more critically.

Plan now for better standardization of your banding effort in 1968. If you use nets, decide upon a standard number and arrangement, at least for normal minimum operation. Record the size or sizes of nets you are using (length, mesh size and source), whether tethered, their general condition (new, or operating at what estimated efficiency if in poor condition). Get into the habit of computing your daily number of net hours, between sunrise and sunset; the Weather Bureau will send you a sunrise-sunset table on request. Remember, on days when you deviate from your standard sampling plan, it takes much less time to make a permanent record of the changes in netting activity, or to take a separate sheet of paper for those birds caught in an additional net, than it takes to change the net itself.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, Maryland 20810

~~LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY~~ LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

The Long Point Bird Observatory will be conducting a continuous program of observation and banding of migrant and resident birds from April 1st to October 31, 1968 at Long Point on the Ontario shore of Lake Erie. The Observatory is situated at the eastern end of the point, about 18 miles from the nearest road. Last year about 16,000 birds of 160 species were banded at the Observatory. Most of the birds are trapped in the Observatory's five Heligoland traps. Accomodation is available at the Observatory for a limited number of experienced observers or banders who are willing to assist in the work of the Observatory for periods of one week or longer. Accomodation includes bunks and cooking facilities, but visitors must bring their own sleeping bags, air mattresses and food. A fee is charged for accomodation and transportation on Long Point. Further details may be obtained from: Mrs. J. Woodford, 76 Glentworth Road, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada.