

1969 Banding Summary(continued). The following banders submitted reports of birds banded outside the eastern region. Information on their reports was forwarded to the IBBA or WBBA compiler as appropriate.

Ind	Sp	Name	State	Ind	Sp	Name	State
45	11	Burk, Kathryn B.	Mont	669	73	Miller, Mrs. M.E.	Ala
136	4	Collins, Charles T.	Cal	0	0	Parsons, M.A.	Ohio
553	48	Corchran, Charles E.	Minn	38	7	Pyle, Robert L.	Hawaii
194	37	Floyd, Ethel	Miss	683	1	Reith, P.L.	La
3213	10	Frazier, W.	Man	268	40	Stewart, Mrs. J. M.	Ohio
421	40	Herndon, Lee B.	Tenn	593	50	Wolcott, M.J./Erickson, R.C.	Mich, Minn
148	11	Hyypio, Peter A.	Mich				
7462	111	Meahl, Howard K	Ohio	2	1	Fisk, Erma J.	Tobago BWI

EBBA BANDING SUMMARY - 1969

By Robert L. Pyle

The EBBA Banding Summary for 1969, carried on the preceding pages and in the previous issue of EBBA News, is based on a 25% larger response than was last year's summary, but the patterns of banding activity in the two years are remarkably similar. Comparative figures for 1968 and 1969 are given in the following table. The table also includes some descriptive statistics on the number of banders' reports received, since the significance of the patterns revealed in the summary totals depends heavily on the extent to which the reporting banders represent all banding activity in the eastern region.

	1968	1969	Change 1968 to 1969
Total banders reporting	222	279	+ 26%
Active banders reporting	214	267	+ 25%
Total birds banded	258,732	316,475	+ 22%
Average number banded (per active bander)	1,209	1,185	- 2%
Median number banded	688	575	- 16%
Number of banders reporting less than 100 bandings	24	41	+ 70%
Total (Total per Bander)			
Number of active Banders reporting:	1968	1969	
for 1968 only - 47	32,589(692)	--	--
for 1968 and 1969- 167	226,143(1365)	242,408(1452)	+ 7%
for 1969 only - 100	--	74,067(741)	--

	1968	1969	Change 1968 to 1969
Master Banding Permittees, Eastern U.S.	730(6/30/69)	728(12/31/69)	less than .5 %
same, omitting Game Management Agents:		524	--
Master Permittees, eastern Canada:	136(6/30/69)	137(12/31/69)	less than 1 %
Number of species reported	281	282	

With the number of banders reporting up 25%, and total birds banded up only 22%, the average birds per bander dropped slightly from the 1968 average. However, the increased response in 1969 came largely from banders with relatively small total bandings. This is shown by: a) banders reporting for the first time in 1969 averaged 741 bandings, compared to nearly twice as many (1452) bandings averaged by the group who reported both in 1968 and 1969; b) the large jump over 1968 in number of banders reporting fewer than 100 bandings; c) the much lower median number banded in 1969.

Hence, the drop in average bandings per bander reflects the increased response by smaller-scale banders, and does not indicate any lessening of banding activity, on the average, in 1969. If anything, general banding activity probably increased in 1969, even though total number of permittees remained virtually the same. The 167 banders reporting for both years, taken as a group, averaged 7% more bandings in '69 than in '68.

The 277 U.S. Banders contributing to the 1969 Summary represent well over one-third of the total U.S. master permittees in the eastern states, and more than half of the U.S. permittees other than federal Game Management Agents and State Fish and Game Departments. (The same cannot be said for eastern Canada, as only two Canadian permittees submitted reports).

Last year's commentary suggested that the Summary probably represents a much higher percent of the total birds (other than gamebirds) actually banded in the eastern U.S. than the percent of U.S. permittees who contributed. This stemmed from the premise that large-scale banders generally were more apt to submit reports, while those not reporting were thought to be mostly smaller scale banders. This suggestion is strengthened this year by the fact that the increased response for 1969 was composed primarily of smaller-scale banders. Also, the banders who did submit reports for both 1968 and 1969 averaged nearly twice as many bandings as did those who reported only for 1968 or only for 1969.

Thus, it is reasonable to conclude that the relative number of each species banded, and the geographic distribution, as compiled in the summary probably represent the real pattern for 1969 quite well. Least representative would be the figures for ducks and gamebirds, as these are the primary species banded by Game Management Agents, State Game Departments and other professional wildlife people. Only a very few of these banders have contributed to the 1969 summary.

The National Wildlife Refuges, however, are very well represented in the 1969 summary. Report forms were sent to all 33 refuges in the eastern states and 30 of them responded, a very good record indeed considering their primary interests and activities lie somewhat outside the scope of EBBA (Their banding efforts are research and so is ours so I do not believe there is such great difference. Editor). A few even included data on bandings in the Refuge by other permit holders. The fine cooperation of these refuge managers is greatly appreciated.

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The three major banding states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, together had 49% of the banders reporting and 47% of the total birds banded, almost exactly the same percentages as in 1968.

The 282 species reported in 1969 included 24 new species not reported in 1968. The new species were 12 waterbirds, 4 other non-passerines and 8 passerines. Hoary Redpoll and White-winged Crossbills reflected the invasion of northern finches; Black Throated Gray Warbler, Bronzed Cowbird and Lark Bunting were western stragglers; Raven, Fish Crow and Bachman Sparrow are seldom-banded species. Among the non-passerines, only Mottled Duck and Red-cockaded Woodpecker represented significant banding programs; the others were incidental bandings of one to seven individuals each.

The 1969 list lacked 23 species reported in 1968. Again, most had been banded in very small numbers and the majority were non-passerines. The 9 passerines not reported in 1969 included 3 Florida specialties, 3 western stragglers, and Short-billed Marsh Wren, Water Pipit and Ipswich Sparrow. One of these species, a Bullock's Oriole, actually was netted at the Fire Island banding station on Long Island, New York, but was collected as a specimen. Also, an anomalous back-cross hybrid of the Blue-winged x Golden-winged Warbler complex was netted and collected in Florida by Mrs. Bradley Fisk.

Myrtle Warblers again topped the list in numbers banded with 19,568, up 31% over 1968. Slate-colored Junco, Evening Grosbeak, White-throated Sparrow, Mourning Dove and Purple Finch followed in that order. Mourning Dove jumped from 20th to 5th place mostly because one of the large gamebird report, and increased reporting from the National Wildlife Refuges.

Evening Grosbeak jumped from 14th to 3rd, Purple Finch from 8th to 6th and Pine Siskin from nowhere to 11th, documenting the excellent finch winter of '68-'69 and the beginning of the great '69-'70 invasion. Especially to be noted are 1740 Evening Grosbeaks banded in North Carolina and the 680 banded in Georgia. These species can be expected to rank high again in 1970. Crossbills, Redpolls, and Pine Grosbeaks together totalled 1268 in 1969, compared to 5 in 1968. The House Finch total increased exactly 50% over 1968 and included 2 in North Carolina banded by Charles Blake.

Blue Jay and Slate colored Junco, each reported by 190 banders, tied for top honors as the most popular species banded; they ranked one-two in 1968. Others on the list of ten most frequently reported species were, in order: Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Cardinal, Robin, Rufous-sided Towhee, Catbird, Common Grackle and Downy Woodpecker. The list changed little from last year. Some 41 species were reported by only one bander each, compared to 44 last year.

Of the 267 active banders reporting, 215 banded in just one eastern state or province, 47 reported bandings in two states, 4 in three states and 1 in four states. Proportions are about the same as last year. (This data might be slightly biased since there are banders working in groups under station permits and who have individual permits as well. Editor)

Our five veteran banders with permit numbers in the 2000's all reported again for 1969. T. Donald Carter of New Jersey has the lowest number (2029), followed by Ray Middleton (Pa.), Maurice Broun (Pa.), Bowdoin Scientific Station (Charles Huntington, N.B., Me.), Mabel Gillespie (Mass.) and Grace Meleney (Mass, N.Y.). Gale Smith had the highest U.S. permit number (9893) issued by the banding office in 1969. (His totals were achieved as a sub-permittee before receiving his own permit in December.).

Powdermill Nature Reserve in Pennsylvania again reported the highest number of individuals (10,410) and most species (122) by a single permittee (this is a station permit. Ed.) and had the highest individual totals for 24 species. Last year Powdermill was highest for 35 species. The new Manomet Bird Observatory in Massachusetts reported 6128 individuals of 107 species, and had highest individual totals for 7 species and 1 hybrid.

The newer Irish Grove Sanctuary of the Maryland Ornithological Society with only intermittent operation, banded 4268 individuals of 95 species, with highest individual totals for 2 species. Maryland Game and Fish Division reported 6368 individuals of 13 gamebird species.

Individuals reporting more than 5000 birds banded were M.A. Byrd (8530), T.A. Beckett (6663), Richard Cohen (5790), Thomas H. Davis, W. Post, Mrs. E.P. Teulings, Leroy Wilcox and Erma Fisk. Last year, only five banders topped 5000 birds. High species counts were reported by Thomas H. Davis and Davis H. Corkran with 108, William Post (106) and four others with 100 or more. Last year, 9 individual banders reported 100 or more species.

Some banders have opportunities, either by happenstance or as part of a carefully planned study program, to band large numbers of certain bird families. These are people whom others might consult for helpful suggestions and guidance in capturing and handling these particular kinds of birds. (If each of these banders would write a thorough paper in their top species, we would be able to fill an entire volume of EBBA News. Ed.) Some of these specialists are as follows:-

Shearwaters & Petrels:-Bowdoin Sci. Sta. (C. Huntington) N.B., 2439 of 4 species incl. 2122 Leaches Petrels.

Herons:-M. Byrd, Md, Va., 3346 of 8 species; T.A. Beckett, S.C., 3061 of 9 sp.; J. Miller, NJ, 1044 of 8 species.

Hawks:-W.S. Clark, N.J., Del., Md., Va. (438 of 8 sp.); C.J. Robertson, Pa., (345 of 6 sp); J.B. Holt Ont, Pa. (282 of 6 sp); E.C. Tabb, Fla., (276 of 4 sp., incl. 201 Sparrow Hawks).

Shorebirds:-B. Knorr, N.J, 350 of 9 species; V.M. Kleen, Md., 258 of 10 species in two nights of banding and R. McKinney, N.Y., 127 of 9 species.

Gulls:-M. Byrd, Md., Va. 2207 of 2 species including 2195 Laughing Gulls; J. Buckalew, N.Y., Md., Va. 1759 of 3 species.

Terns and Skimmers:-T. Beckett, S.C. (1950 of 4 sp., including 1705 Royal Terns; Leroy Wilcox, N.Y., 1525 of 4 sp., incl. 1318 Common Terns.

Owls:-Jan Reese, Md. 36 Barn Owls.

Woodpeckers:-Thomas H. Davis, N.Y. 178 of 4 species incl. 124 Flickers; Powdermill N.R., Pa. 88 of 4 sp. E. Teulings, N.J., N.C. 83 of 5 species.

Swallows:-R. Yunick, N.Y., 1363 of 3 sp, incl. 1250 Banks. W. Merritt, N.Y., 1033 of 3 sp., incl. 969 Banks.

Warblers

-E. Fisk, N.Y., Fla. 2296 of 27 sp., incl. 1723 Myrtles; A. J. Lauro, N.Y. 2177 of 26 sp. incl. 1736 Myrtles; S. & D. Mitchell, Va. 2053 of 31 sp.; Irish Grove Sanct., Md., 2033 of 23 sp., incl. 1625 Myrtles. Others with 30 or more species of warblers were C. Hacker, Va. (33); Powdermill Nature Res, Pa (33); the Laphams, R.I. (32) and D. Corkran, N.J. (30)

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Editor's Notes

I would like to take this opportunity to wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let us strive to keep your editor well supplied with material. Judging from Mr. Pyle's summary, we are fortunate to have a great many banders who are specialists in certain species. I direct this mainly to these specialists when I ask that they do their utmost to submit quality papers and notes consisting of meaningful analysis of their data. We MUST work together to make EBBA NEWS a publication of note; a compendium where any researcher can find data found at our migration stations which are not published elsewhere. I'm starting on January 1, 1971, how about you?

Atlantic Flyway Review was omitted from this issue because not enough material was submitted concerning the spring migration to make its publication worthwhile. In the next issue, fall reports for Region I are due. See EBBA News 33(5): 251 for details.

Two changes will be evident in Volume 34 (1971). A redesigned front cover: photos will no longer appear on the cover but, if they are of good quality and pertain to a lead paper, they'll go as a full page enlargement (as a frontispiece) on the first white page of each issue. A second innovation for which credit goes to our President, Emil J. Berger, Jr., is the printing of issue marks on the backbone of each issue. In this way it will be much easier to locate a specific issue on your bookshelf.

At this point, I would like to thank all of you for your excellent cooperation, particularly our former editor, Frank P. Frazier, Jr., for his help in getting me started on the News, Mrs. Ruth Rose, our circulation manager, Mr. Edward M. Johnson, our printer who did an A-1 job, my regular columnists and those who submit recurring material and finally, the officers of our Association.

NEXT DEADLINE: 1 January 1971. (Please allow extra mailing time during the holidays. Thank You). F.S. Schaeffer, editor