

## SHOREBIRD RECAPTURE OPERATION

The objective of this research is to study the migration routes of north American shorebirds in relation to their flight range capabilities.

A field staff has undertaken a marking programme in 1970 on the Atlantic coast (Magdalen Islands and Sable Island) of southbound migrating shorebirds to know the percentage of birds that use an oversea route to the Caribbean and northern South America as compared with those that follow the coast down to Florida before passing to South America.

Shorebirds will be mist-netted and banded with regular bands, from July 10 to October 15 again this year. Each bird will be color marked; we will use feather dyes on the underparts and streamers attached to the leg or to the wing. Birds caught on the Magdalen Islands will be marked YELLOW (dye and streamer), while the ones from Sable Island will bear RED markings. The six last figures of the band number will be written on the streamer; they will be large enough to be read with binoculars or telescope. The flight range capabilities of each individual will be estimated from its fresh weight and other parameters. The same programme will be repeated in 1972.

### TYPE OF COLLABORATION WE WOULD APPRECIATE FROM YOU:

- Note the band number on the streamer, and report to us the locality, date, color of streamer or dye and species.
- Weigh the bird (when caught alive).
- Report to us any sight records of color marked shorebirds (underparts and streamer, yellow or red).
- Inform us of any person interested in taking an active part in this programme.
- Do not hesitate to communicate with us.

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