

resulting in 168 species being known from the island, but much still remains to be learned about the island's avifauna. This book brings up to date all that is known about the birdlife of Isla Grande and encourages further ornithological exploration. The book recalls the ornithological history of the island, describes its geography, presents avian species accounts, and provides aids to identification. The latter are primarily a series of black and white drawings by Jack R. Schroeder of Isla Grande's birdlife and will be helpful to anyone conducting field studies in this remote part of the world. Isla Grande is certainly such a spot, and bird banders looking for a worthwhile project in a remote outpost could add greatly to our knowledge of the birdlife of this remote corner of the world. This book is a starting point for anyone considering undertaking such studies.

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EBBA BANDING SUMMARY - 1970 .....Robert L. Pyle

CORRECTION TO THE 1970 SUMMARY TABLE, EBBA NEWS 34(4):202- Change totals for Florida, as follows: Acadian, Traill's and Least Flycatchers to 5, 27 and 12 (from 32, 12 and -, respectively). Change overall totals for these species to 160, 569 and 993 respectively. Grand totals for all birds for Florida, and overall, are not affected.

The banding summary table carried on pages 196-209 of the July-August EBBA NEWS represents an enormous amount of statistical compilation. This year, the compiler had the help of six assistants, each compiling the species totals for one or more states. Without any prior experience with the EBBA summary, these assistants did an outstanding job that required absolute accuracy and meticulous attention to detail. The assistant compilers were: Jean Nichols at Manomet Bird Observatory (New England states); Frank P. Frazier, Jr. (New Jersey); Walter Tyler (Pennsylvania); Melvin Kleen (Maryland); Walter Smith (Virginia); and Elizabeth Teulings (North Carolina and Florida). Many thanks to these volunteers for their hours of patient work contributed to EBBA.....

The Summary for 1970 is based on a response somewhat smaller than last year, but larger than in 1968. The table below shows comparative figures for 1968, 1969 and 1970. Some measures of the response are included, since the significance of the patterns revealed in the Summary depends heavily on the extent to which the reporting banders fairly represent all banding activity in the eastern region. The 25,192 Sooty Terns banded in the Dry Tortugas colony by W. B. Robertson and his colleagues have been omitted from the 1970 statistics below in order to provide more comparable figures for 1969 and 1970. The total banding reported in 1970, including Sooty Terns, was 320,350, slightly above the 1969 total.

	1968	1969	1970	Change 1969 to '70
Total banders reporting	222	279	255	- 9%
Active banders reporting	214	267	237	- 11%
Total birds banded	258732	316475	295158	- 7%
Average number banded (per active bander)	1209	1185	1245	+ 5%
Median number banded	688	575	590	+ 3%
Number of banders reporting less than 100 bandings	24	41	35	- 15%
<u>Number of species reported</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>285</u>	- -

Reporting in	Active Banders	Total Banded		Total per bander		Change 1969 to 1970
		1969	1970	1969	1970	
1969 only:	78	56817	--	728	--	--
1969 and 1970:	189	259658	257158	1374	1360	- 1%
<u>1970 only:</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>38000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>--</u>

There were 729 Master Banding Permittees in the eastern United States as of December 1970, compared with 728 in December 1969. The number of "private" permits, after deleting federal Game Management Agents, State Game Departments and Cooperative Wildlife Research Units, totalled 622. Totals for eastern Canada were 125 active permits in 1970 and 137 in 1969. Larry L. Hood of the Bird Banding Laboratory kindly furnished these figures, as well as figures for individual states, which are available from the compiler on request.

The number of active banders reporting was down 11% from 1969, but total bandings reported was down only 7%. All the figures in the table confirm the suggestion in last year's Commentary that the banders with large totals tend to respond each year, and that ups and downs in the number of banders responding each year result primarily from ups and downs in the number of "low total" reports submitted. As has been discussed in the 1968 and 1969 commentaries (EBBA News 32:207 and 33:281) the relative numbers of species banded and the geographic distribution indicated in the Summary probably represent the real pattern for 1970 fairly well, even though only 35% of the U.S. permittees reported. A larger response would, of course, provide an even better indication of total banding activity.

The national Wildlife Refuges were again queried individually for banding reports. Through the generous assistance of the Northeastern and Southeastern Regional Offices of the Fish and Wildlife Service, 34 reports were submitted representing all Refuges in the eastern area, plus some additional bandings by other personnel. The fine cooperation of these Refuge Managers is greatly appreciated.

New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania together had 44% of both the banders reporting and the total birds banded (excluding Sooty Terns), compared to 47% to 49% in 1968 and 1969. Virginia passed both Pennsylvania and New Jersey in total birds banded to become one of the "major"



banding states this year.

The 285 species reported in 1970 included 26 species not reported in 1969. Fifteen of these were not reported in 1968 either. The 15 new ones generally were rare species and western stragglers, with only Sooty Tern and Lapland Longspur having more than 3 banding reported. Ten species were missed in 1970 that had been reported in both 1968 and 1969. The only landbirds in this latter group were Black Vulture and Bewick Wren.

Aside from the 25,192 Sooty Terns, Myrtle Warbler again squeaked through with the highest species total (13,823), narrowly beating out Evening Grosbeak (13,686). White-throated Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Catbird and Song Sparrow followed in that order.

The big winter finch invasion in the early months of 1970 resulted in Evening Grosbeak nearly topping the list. Pine Siskins ranked eighth, ahead of Purple Finch by almost 1000 bandings. Crossbills, Redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks together totalled 1738, compared to 1268 in 1969 and 5 in 1968. Finch banding this year was centered in Virginia and North Carolina. Together, these two states had over half of the Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches, and nearly half of the Pine Siskins reported in the eastern region. Only Pennsylvania (grosbeaks) and Massachusetts (siskins) had totals anywhere near approaching those of Virginia or North Carolina for these three species.

Blue Jay and Song Sparrow, each reported by 161 banders, appeared most often on individual bander's reports. Other species reported by 127 or more banders were White-throated Sparrow, Junco, Robin, Cardinal, Catbird, Goldfinch, Grackle and Towhee. The list is virtually the same as in previous years. Forty-one species were reported by only one bander each, compared with 41 last year and 44 the year before.

During 1970 the Banding Laboratory exhausted the 9000 series of permit numbers and started a new series in the 20,000's (10,000 and up are issued to Canadian banders). The highest permit number issued in 1970 was 20039. The highest permit number reported to EBBA in 1970 was A. O. Ramsey of Pennsylvania (#9958). Our five veteran banders with permit numbers in the 2000's all reported again in 1970.

Bird Observatory stations with intense banding programs operating a significant part of the year are becoming an increasingly important part of overall banding activity in the eastern region. This year, reports from Manomet Bird Observatory in Massachusetts (12,219 birds of 127 species), Powdermill Nature Reserve in Pennsylvania (10,774 birds of 118 species) and Long Point Bird Observatory in Ontario (8,185 birds of 148 species) completely dominated the statistics. These three stations had highest individual totals for 76 species (Powdermill 31, Long Point 30, Manomet 15). A fourth large program operated by Robertson, Woolfenden and colleagues in the Dry Tortugas in Florida banded 25,192 Sooty Terns and possibly other species not reported. In past years, several of the larger Operation Recovery stations have achieved greater totals during the fall migration, but these

generally have been combined totals for several individual banders rather than a single program under one banding permit.

Mitchell Byrd, reporting a remarkable 11,295 birds banded in Virginia and Maryland, was the only individual bander with a total anywhere near those of the larger stations. His total was not achieved simply by making rounds on a few dozen mist nets. Mitch is a specialist: 3,985 herons, 3,968 gulls and terns, and 2,696 winter finches. Other individuals reporting over 5000 birds banded were Anthony Lauro (7586), Laphams (6541), Mitchells (6534), D. Ford (5915), F. Scott (5899), R. Cohen (5598) and M. Lerch (5071). All except the Laphams banded in New York or Virginia. High species counts were reported by D. Ford (135), A. Lauro (120) and four others with 100 to 112 species banded. An interesting by product of the EBBA Summary is the opportunity to identify those banders, who, by happenstance or as part of a carefully planned program, are able 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. Some of these specialists are as follows:

Shearwaters, Petrels - Bowdoin College, N.B. (913 of 3 sp.)

Herons - M. Byrd, Md., Va. (3985 of 8 sp); Beckett, SC (848 of 4 sp).

Hawks - Holt, Ont, Pa. (475 of 7 sp); Robertson, Pa (340 of 8 sp); Tabb, Fla. (182 of 5 sp).

Shorebirds - Long Point Obs., Ont. (333 of 19 sp); Knorr, N.J. (224 of 7 sp); McKinney, N.Y. (202 of 11 sp); V. Kleen, Md. (117 of 10 sp).

Gulls - J. Buckalew, NY, Md., Va. (2314 of 3 sp); Byrd, Md, Va. (2185/2 sp, including 2179 Laughing Gulls); H. H. Krug, Ont. (2101 of 2 sp).

Terns and Skimmers - H. Hays, NY (3798 of 2 sp); M. Byrd, Md., Va. (1783 of 6 sp); W. Savell, NJ (1052 of 3 sp).

Owls - J. Reese, Md. (42 Barn Owls); Long Point Obs., Ont. (18 Saw-whets - 1 Screech); R. Cohen, NY (10 of 3 sp.).

Empidonax Flycatchers - Powdermill, Pa. (270 of 4 sp); Long Point Obs, Ont. (256 of 4 sp); Manomet Obs, Mass. (101 of 3 sp); D. Ford, NY (89 of 4 sp)

Swallows - M. Lerch, NY (977 of 3 sp); J. Morgan, Me. (879 of 2 sp);

Bluebirds - R. Bell, Pa. (598); L. Kibler, N.Y., Pa. (480).

Warblers - A. Lauro, N.Y. (4737 of 29 sp. including 3138 Myrtles); Manomet Obs, Mass. (3208 of 28 sp. including 1620 Myrtles); Mitchells, Va. (2861 of 28 sp.); Powdermill Res, Pa. (2750 of 33 sp); Laphams, RI (2716 of 29 sp); D. Ford, NY (33 sp.); R. Leberman, Pa. (30 sp.) Long Point (30 sp.)

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#### C o r r i g e n d u m

Rather belatedly, we apologize for an error made in EBBA News 34(1):42. In Atlantic Flyway Review, Region I, the author's name is given as David R. Petersen, due to a typesetting error in the masthead. The correct name which should have been inserted is: Wayne R. Petersen. Editor