

There are two problems that add to the difficulty of obtaining concrete results from banding operations in Japan. The first of these has to do with the ideographs used on the bands, which are not well understood in foreign countries. Steps have been taken to overcome this by bringing the work to the attention of governmental authorities in those countries through which Japanese birds are presumed to migrate. The second problem concerns the geographic position of the island empire, which is not located upon a general migration highway, birds from northern China and Siberia usually traveling south through the mainland, or at best by way of the coast. A comparable situation may be expressed by assuming that in the United States banding work was being done only on Cape Cod, and that the next point of contact for the birds was the Bahama Islands. The number of returns to be expected under such conditions obviously would be small.

It is hoped, however, that with the excellent background already established by our co-workers in Japan, their operations will persist, as operators of American bird-banding stations can attest to the interesting character of the results that are derived from continued and intensive effort.

Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., June 14, 1928.

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## HISTORY OF A FEMALE HOODED WARBLER

BY T. DONALD CARTER

On July 4, 1923, during a visit to the Wyanokie Plateau region of Passaic County, New Jersey, my attention was attracted to a female Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) feeding a young fledgling perhaps two days from the nest. Fortunately I had a small folding trap with me, and, after securing the young and banding him No. 36073, I placed him in the trap as bait and in a few minutes the mother was caught. She was banded with No. 36074 and liberated. As is my custom, the young bird was banded on the right leg, whereas the band was placed upon the left leg of the adult.

On May 30, 1924, a banded female Hooded Warbler was observed at exactly the same spot where No. 36074 was banded the previous year. It was not until June 21st, that with the help of R. H. Howland, she was caught and her

number checked. Three of her offspring were also banded. On the next day, June 22d, her mate was given band No. 36072.

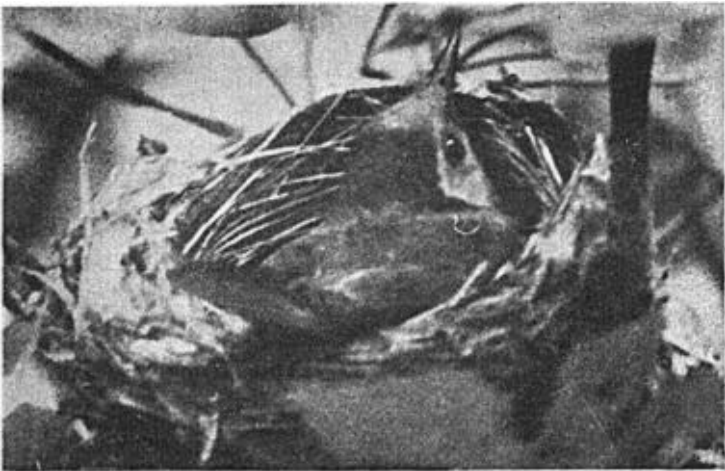
On May 24, 1925, a banded female Hooded Warbler was observed about two hundred feet north of the site chosen by No. 36074 on the two previous years. An unbanded male was in attendance. On June 7th she was discovered on her nest in an azalea bush about two and a half feet from the ground. The nest contained four eggs. On June 15th we returned with an umbrella blind and camera. The eggs had not hatched. On the 21st of June three eggs had hatched, and she and the unbanded male were busy feeding. The umbrella blind did not disturb them in their household duties, so we were able to read a portion of the numbers on the band, proving that she was our old bird. On June 24th the young had left the nest. Neither male nor female were caught this year.

In 1926, although a number of trips were made into this general locality, no banded Hooded Warbler was observed, but on May 30, 1927, Mr. Howland observed a banded female Hooded Warbler in the approximate spot of the 1925 nest. At this time the trees and underbrush were being cut down in this vicinity for the proposed Wanaque Reservoir, so that her nest was doubtless destroyed. A visit to the spot on June 3, 1928, found the entire district inundated by the waters of the reservoir.

It might be well to state that one other adult female Hooded Warbler was banded in 1924 about one mile from the spot where No. 36074 held sway. These two birds were easily distinguished, however, as the black on No. 36074 covered much of her crown and extended down to her throat, where there was a distinct black wash. The black on the other bird was restricted to a slight wash on the crown.

In conclusion, it might be of interest to note that whereas the male is generally considered to select the nesting-station, this is an instance of a female bird returning to the same nesting-site for a number of years, and her mate was not the same individual throughout.

American Museum of Natural History



*Two views of returning Hooded Warbler on nest,  
Wyanokie Plateau, Passaic Co., N. J., June 13, 1925.*