



Western

Regional

News

Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

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Auxiliary Marking *Jon L. Atwood*

Worksheets *Dr. Charles T. Collins*
Annual Report *Otis D. Swisher*

Applications for membership in the Western Bird Banding Association should be sent to the Treasurer. All classes of membership receive *North American Bird Bander*, the joint publication of Eastern Bird Banding Association and Western Bird Banding Association. Membership classifications are: Active Member, \$6.00 per year; Associate Member, \$6.00 per year; Sustaining Member, \$12.00 per year; Student Member, \$4.50 per year; Life Member, \$150.00.

From the President

In the president's message for January 1973 (WBB, 48:1) I pointed out that the start of the year is the time to look back over the accomplishments of the past year as well as to contemplate what we can or want to do in the coming banding season. Such sentiments are as appropriate now as then, and are applicable on both the individual and the association level. Accordingly, WBBA's officers will be considering various plans or goals for the association for the coming year. However, it is safe to say that WBBA, along with EBBA, can look back over the first year of our new publication, NABB, and feel a sense of pride. NABB admirably fulfills its role as a medium for the exchange of ideas and techniques for banders as well as a source of suggestions for improved data acquisition and processing. We can only hope it will be able to continue serving banders as well in the coming year as in the last. It is, however, your publication and suggestions for additions and/or changes are always welcome.

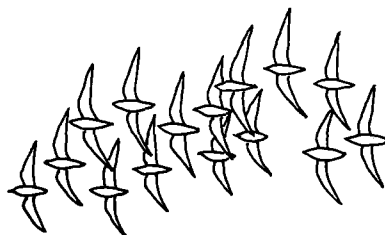
Individual banders are probably examining their 1976 banding totals as part of their planning for 1977. I want to remind you now, as in 1973, that the "ring and fling" bander is apt to have little to show for the effort expended other than perhaps a bragging list in the 1977 annual report. Those using their banding as part of planned programs of study are more likely to make a lasting contribution to ornithology. Self evaluation of our goals in banding is

always appropriate but is particularly so at this time of the year. I would like to call your attention to another factor which you might consider now in this planning for 1977. There is an increasingly strong movement building to include non-game wildlife in the study programs of state and federal wildlife agencies. Legislation authorizing this could be considered in 1977 and deserves our strong support. Many of us are already engaged in the type of banding projects which could well be valuable to such non-game study programs.

Thus 1977 is a year to consider not only how it suits us personally to conduct our study programs but also how we might, by slight alterations in our procedures or sampling, complement the efforts of various agencies to gain baseline data on non-game species. Such data are necessary before it is possible to properly evaluate the health and stability of species, populations, and habitats. This is the required first step in affording them increased protection from the effects of proliferating human populations and increased urbanization.

With a little imagination and communication in the planning stage, our data can be made to serve two purposes. In this way we can help . . . let's do it! If you wish, we can discuss this at the annual meeting in Logan, Utah, on 23-24 April; please plan to attend!

Charlie Collins



Oops!

When we make a goof, we do it where it really counts.

On the worksheet for Mountain Quail, mailed with the last issue of NABB, the scientific name was given as *Oreortix pictus*. It should be *Oreortyx pictus*.

As our sharp-eyed reader commented: "Seems strange that in a worksheet the generic name of the bird under discussion should be incorrectly spelled!"

Nominations for 1977-78 officers

President Charles T. Collins has appointed Michael San Miguel to be chairman of the committee to nominate WBBA officers for fiscal 1977-78.

Anyone who has suggestions for any office is requested to send them to Mr. San Miguel at 409 Meadow Lane, Monrovia, CA 91016.

Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting in Logan, Utah on 23-24 April.

Who is . . . ?

Van A. Truan, First Vice President

Van has been hooked on birds since Junior High School days but only began banding in 1973, just before receiving a B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Southern Colorado. He refers to himself as a self-taught ornithologist, although he did pick up some "official" hours in ornithology and mammology a few months ago at the university.

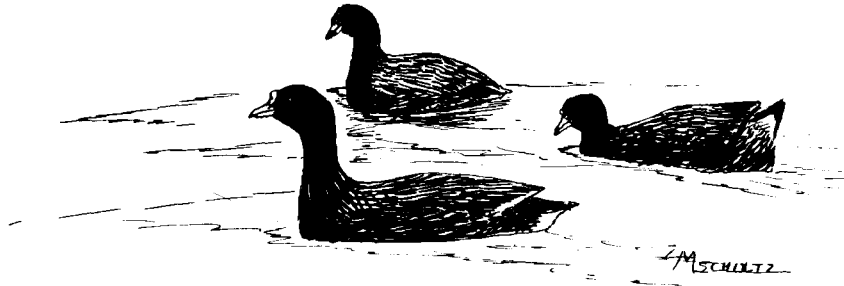
Carrying on an independent study of the "range and distribution of passerines along the Arkansas River and its tributaries in S.E. Colorado" is his ongoing project, begun in 1973. Also, banding shorebirds is a pet project, and Van is probably the only shorebird bander in Colorado. Since 1974, he has banded 19 different species.

He worked for the Pueblo Parks Department as a

naturalist and outdoor interpretive specialist for two years, and helped the Colorado Division of Wildlife with some land management projects at the new Pueblo Reservoir last year.

Van is a "veteran" faculty member of National Wildlife Federation's Conservation Summits, begun in 1970 and held annually near Estes Park, Colorado. There, he is responsible for leading bird identification walks and presenting bird banding demonstrations.

Born in Pueblo, Colorado, 25 years ago, Van has been involved with birds for half of his life. At the present time, he is job hunting and comments, "If something doesn't show up soon, I'll probably be a fulltime student again."



Bibliography available

A bibliography of the Wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*) has recently been compiled by W.B.B.A. member Richard Bradley. Copies are available by writing to Mr. Bradley, c/o Dr. Charles T. Collins, Department of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840.

W.B.B.A. decals

Attractive, three-color decals — with the W.B.B.A. logo — are now available. In black, white and orange, these decals make an eye-catching addition to luggage, car and camper windows, banding bags, etc.

Send your order, along with one dollar (\$1.00) for each decal, to Shirley S. Spitler, Treasurer, P.O. Box 3128 YPG, Yuma, AZ 85364. Profits will go towards making a stronger W.B.B.A.

All new and renewing Sustaining Members will receive a complimentary decal.

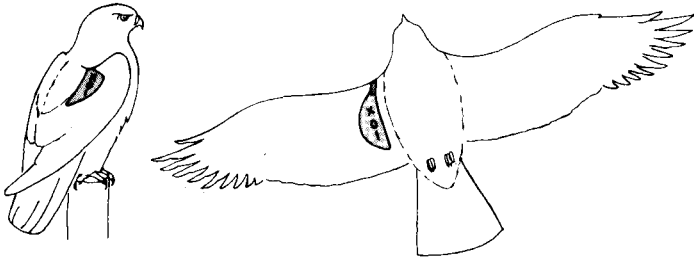
Clearance sale

Back issues of *Western Bird Bander* and its predecessor, *News from the Bird Banders*, are now available at bargain rates.

1926 to 1960: A limited supply of incomplete sets of approximately 100 issues each are available to members or libraries at \$15.00 per set (postpaid). These sets include many of the earliest numbers and represent a wonderful cross-section of the activities and interests of W.B.B.A. during its early years. Order a set while they last!

1960 to 1970: Copies are available at \$0.25 per quarterly issue. As our supply of some numbers is already exhausted or very low, please do not send advance payment with your order. We will bill you for the numbers we can supply. Order now: first come — first served!

Order from: Dr. Charles T. Collins, Department of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840. Please make checks payable to Western Bird Banding Association.



Auxiliary marking authorizations

Edited by Jon L. Atwood

Beginning with the last issue, two changes were made in the format of "Auxiliary Marking Authorizations" — inclusion of the general locality where projects are being conducted, and exclusion of the specific colors included in a given authorization. These changes will hopefully enhance the main goal of this feature, that of promoting informational exchange among banders working on the same or similar species, or among those using

similar marking techniques. At the same time, the increasingly complex editorial task of reporting new and amended authorizations will be greatly reduced.

Sightings of marked birds should be reported directly to the Bird-Banding Lab, which will notify the bander responsible.

Aleutian Canada Goose: Radio transmitters in the Aleutian Islands, AK. G. Vernon Byrd, Aleutian Islands NWR, Box 5251, Adak, AK 98791.

Aleutian Canada Goose: Radio transmitters and/or plastic leg bands and/or plastic neck collars in Humboldt Co. and Del Norte Co., CA. Paul F. Springer, Wildlife Research Field Station, Arcata, CA 95521.

Pacific Brant: Neck collars in Puget Sound, WA. Robert G. Jeffrey, Washington Dept. of Game, 1100 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

Snow Goose: Neck collars and/or spray paint on both wings, tail, breast in vicinity of Bitter Lake NWR, NM and Bosque del Apache NWR, NM. James L. Sands, New Mexico Dept. of Game, Rural Route, Box 10, Placitas, NM 87043.

American Kestrel: Leather leg streamers in San Benito Co., CA. Dr. T.G. Balgooyen, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Calif. State Univ., San Jose, CA 95114.

American Kestrel: Imped tail feathers and/or spray paint on tail or wing tips and/or plastic leg bands in Solano Co. and Yolo Co., CA. Dr. Daniel W. Anderson, Div. of Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, Univ. of Calif., Davis, CA 95616.

American Kestrel and Red-tailed Hawk: Paint and/or dye and/or wing streamers in Contra Costa Co., CA. Gary L. Bogue, Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

Golden Eagle and Northern Bald Eagle: Radio transmitters and/or patagial tags in WA. Walter English, Woodland Park Zoological Gardens, 5500 Phinny Ave., Seattle, WA 98103.

Bald Eagle: Wing tags in south-central CO. Walter D. Graul, Colorado Div. of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 and Alan R. Harmata, 521 Maple St., Fort Collins, CO 80521.

Osprey: Engraved plastic leg bands and/or plain or striped plastic leg bands in Gulf of Calif., Mexico. Dr. Daniel W. Anderson, address above.

American Avocet and Black-necked Stilt: Plastic leg bands and/or dye in Cache and Box Elder Co., UT. Kimberly

Smith, Dept. of Biology, UMC 53, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322.

Barn Owl and Great Horned Owl: Paint and/or dye and/or wing streamers in Contra Costa Co., CA. Gary L. Bogue, address above.

Black-chinned, Costa's, Anna's, Broad-tailed, Rufous, Allens's, Calliope, and Broad-billed Hummingbirds: leg streamers and/or paint in southeast AZ and vicinity of Gunnison Co., CO. Nickolas M. Waser, Dept. of Biological Sciences (E), Univ. of Ariz., Tucson, AZ 85721.

Common Raven: Imped wing feathers in Petersburg, AK. Jeffrey H. Hughes, P.O. Box 1061, Petersburg, AK 99833.

Black-capped Chickadee and Plain Titmouse: Plastic leg bands in McKinley Co. and Valencia Co., NM. D. Archibald McCallum, Box 652, Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819.

Starling: Leg streamers in Cache Co., UT. Dr. Keith L. Dixon, Dept. of Biology, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322.

Starling, Common Grackle, and Red-winged Blackbird: Spray paint on wings and/or tail and radio transmitters in KY and TN. W.C. Royall, Denver Wildlife Research, Bldg. 16, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80255.

Brown-headed Cowbird: Plastic leg bands in eastern CA. Jennifer Meux White, Museum of Vert. Zoology, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, CA 94720.

Evening Grosbeak: Plastic leg bands in Cache Co., UT. Dr. Martha H. Balph, 1344 Canyon Rd., Logan, UT 84321.

Oregon Junco: Plastic leg bands in Nevada Co., CA. Jennifer Meux White, address above.

White-crowned Sparrow and Song Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of San Francisco and Los Angeles, CA; Gearhart and Seaside, OR; and Glacier Nat'l. Park, MT. Dr. Luis F. Baptista, Moore Laboratory of Zoology, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90041.

Song Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in Kern Co., Los Angeles Co., and Ventura Co., CA. Thomas W. Keeney, Biological Sciences Dept., Calif. State Polytechnic Univ., 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768.

Recaptures

Canada Goose. 558-92505. Banded as L-M at Fish Springs NWR, Dugway, Utah, on 27 July 1964. Caught by dog during banding operation 11 July 1974. (9 years).

Lesser Snow Goose. 587-24040. Banded as SY at Klamath Basin NWR, Tulelake, California, on 26 March 1957. Shot on 24 October 1975 at Sacramento NWR, California. (20 years.)

Common Nighthawk. 70-132728. Banded as A-F by Martin K. McNicholl at Courtenay, B.C., Canada on 7 August 1973. Recaptured (noose) on 11 August 1974.

Acorn Woodpecker. 64-197331. Banded as AHY-F by Allegra Collister at Portal, Arizona on 27 July 1967. Recaptured 11 February 1972. (5 plus years; no previous returns).

Horned Lark. 102-153311 (new 1161-25144). Banded as AHY-M by Roger L. Boyd, 8 miles north of Nunn, Weld Co., Colorado on 9 June 1969. Retrapped 2 May 1974. (7 years; 2 or 3 previous returns).

Horned Lark. 33-147516. Banded as L-U by Roger L. Boyd, 8 miles north of Nunn, Weld Co., Colorado on 26 May 1971. Retrapped 25 June 1974.

Bridled Titmouse. 116-89181. Banded as AHY-U by Allegra Collister at Portal, Arizona on 8 March 1968. Recaptured 13 January 1974. (6 plus years; no previous returns).

Robin. 662-34705. Banded as A-M by Sylvia Brockner at Evergreen, Colorado on 13 June 1967. Renetted 12 July 1974. (8 years; no previous returns).

Bell's Vireo. 117-12842. Banded as AHY-M by Michael San Miguel at Fish Canyon, Duarte, California on 30 March 1968. Renetted 2 April 1974. (6 plus years; no previous returns).

Yellow Warbler. 120-35345. Banded as AHY-M by Dr. George C. West at Fairbanks, Alaska on 18 June 1971. Renetted 15 June 1974. (1 previous return).

Yellow-breasted Chat. 109-154966. Banded as AHY-U by Allegra Collister at Longmont, Colorado on 15 May 1970. Renetted 21 May 1974. (5 years; no previous returns).

Black-headed Grosbeak. 77-106198. Banded as HY-M by Avian Biology Laboratory, San Jose, California, at San Jose on 22 September 1971. Shot on 12 April 1974 at Taretan, Michoacan, Mexico.

Lawrence's Goldfinch. 11290-30524. Banded as AHY-M by Michael San Miguel at Fish Canyon, Duarte, California on 23 September 1972. Recovered in June 1973 at Santa Gertrudes, Baja California.

Oregon Junco. 81-96250. Banded as AHY-F by Avian Biology Laboratory, San Jose, California at San Ramon, California on 9 March 1974. Killed by cat 3 April 1974 at Carson, Washington.

Oregon Junco. 113-35247. Banded as U-U by Dr. John Davis at Hastings Reservation, Monterey Co., California on 14 December 1967. Retrapped 10 December 1974. (7 years; 1 previous return).

White-crowned Sparrow (*pugetensis*). 106-137185. Banded as ASY-U by Avian Biology Laboratory, San Jose, California on 30 March 1969. Retrapped 23 November 1974. (7 plus years; 5 previous returns).

COLOR MARKED RAVENS

Common Ravens have been banded near Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County, southeastern Oregon during May, June, and July of 1976. Sighting reports indicate that ravens may disperse longer distances than originally anticipated.

Each marked raven has a Fish and Wildlife Service band on the left leg and colored patagial tags on either or both wings. The colors of the wing tags



currently being used are: orange, light blue, green, dark blue, yellow (with a black diagonal stripe), red (with a black diagonal stripe), and white. Colors may be pure or have a silver bar on them.

If you have an opportunity to observe any color marked ravens, the following information would be appreciated:

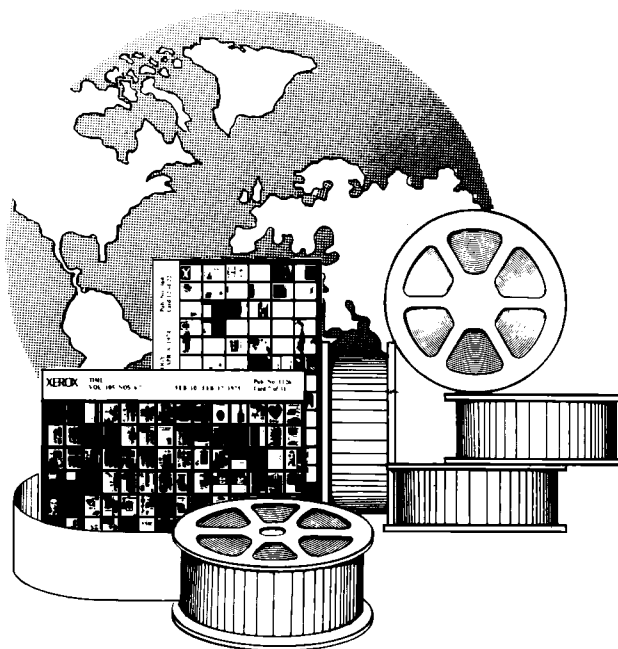
- (1) Date and time of observation
- (2) Location of observation
- (3) Behavior of bird (in a group, flying, etc.)
- (4) Color(s) and position(s) (right or left wing) of the marker(s)

Post fledging behavior and dispersal are two of the topics being studied.

Please report sightings to: Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, MD 20810; and to Dick Stiehl, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 113, Burns, OR 97720, A.C. 503 493-2323

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