
Recent Literature

Edited by Martin K. McNicholl



Banding history

Bird banding in Canada. Anonymous. 1981. Can. Wildl. Serv., Ottawa. 8 pp. pamphlet. (Brief review of history, purpose, techniques and level of effort of banding in Canada in particular and North America in general.) MM

Banding equipment and techniques

A study of weight loss from aluminum rings taken from birds occupying either a dry land or fresh water habitats. D. Whitelaw. 1979. *Safring News* 8:57-64. (Weight loss, and thus wear, was greater on bands from birds occupying terrestrial habitats than from those on water birds. Band wear was greater in alkaline waters than in acidic waters. The longevity of some waterfowl and at least one dove species is such that some individuals may occasionally live longer than the effective life of the band, but these individuals constitute only a small proportion of the population.) MM

An improved balchatri trap for Buzzards. M.B. Schmitt and S. Baur. 1979. *Safring News* 8:65-67. (Trapping success varied with noose length and width, number of bait prey, color of trap, and length of time the observer waited for a reaction.) MM

Trapping nesting terns: a modified method. J. Burton and J. Chalifour. 1980. *Inland Bird Banding* 52:36. (Modifications to a trap described earlier by McNicholl to suit conditions in the Magdellon Islands improved success in trapping nesting Arctic and Common Terns.) MM

Harrier radio-tagging techniques and local and migratory movements of radio-tagged juvenile Harriers. A.E. Beske. 1980. *Raptor Res.* 14:126-127. (Abstract of thesis: compares reactions of Northern Harriers to 3 methods of attaching radios, summarizes local and migratory movements, and documents the establishment of temporary home ranges during migration.) MM

Identification, molts, and plumages

Some anatomic characteristics of southeastern Michigan Canada Geese. R.M. Kaminski. 1980. *Jack-Pine Warbler* 58:99-103. (Several morphological parameters were found to be imprecise predictors of Canada Goose age-sex classes.) NC

North American banding results

Similarity of dispersal among sibling male Spruce Grouse. D.M. Keppie. 1980. *Can. J. Zool.* 58:2102-2104. (Variability among distances of dispersal in color-banded male grouse was less among siblings than among birds from different broods.) MM

The Long-billed Curlew in Saskatchewan: status and distribution. W.E. Renaud. 1980. *Blue Jay* 38:221-237. (Brood banded in nest moved more than 6.5 km in 6 days.) MM

Protecting Whooping Cranes. H. de Vogel. 1980. *Blue Jay* 38:266. (Pair of Whooping Cranes with color-banded chick at Unity, Sask. early in Oct. 1979 were at Aransas, TX on 5 Oct.) MM

Owl banding in Saskatchewan. T. Hrynewich. 1980. *Blue Jay* 38:266-267. (Letter from a grade 5 student indicates tremendous educational value of C. Stuart Houston's Great Horned Owl banding program) MM

Gray Catbirds rear Brown-headed Cowbirds. P.E. Lowther. 1980. *Inland Bird Banding* 52:29-30. (Four instances of Gray Catbirds raising cowbirds at least to fledging. Three cowbirds were banded, and one of these observed for more than a week.) MM

Alberta bluebird trails - 1978. J.C. Finlay. 1980. *Alta Nat.* 10:149-151. (753 Mountain Bluebirds and 863 Tree Swallows were banded on Alberta trails in 1978. Several returns were reported from both species, including a swallow nesting in the same box for the fourth consecutive year.) MM

Recent Literature

The Alberta bluebird trail report - 1979. J.C. Finlay. 1980. *Alta. Nat.* 10:151-153. (528 Mountain Bluebirds and 914 Tree Swallows were banded on Alberta trails in 1979.) MM

A record of runt eggs in the Tree Swallow. P. Dring. 1980. *Inland Bird Banding* 52:37. (An unusually large clutch with 5 runt eggs and 6 normal eggs was apparently laid by a banded female on her third known nesting.) MM

Long Point Bird Observatory 1978 annual report. M. Bradstreet and C. Risley (Editors). 1981. Long Point Bird Observ., Port Rowan, Ont. 24 pp. (Contains banding totals, recovery data, nest records and progress reports on studies of migration monitoring, beached birds, birds at feeders, heronries in Ontario, Killdeer, Piping Plover, and Tree Swallows.) MM

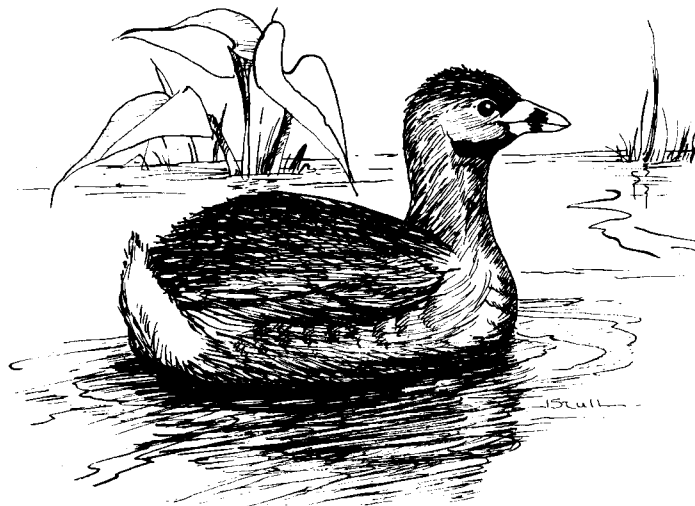
Summary of the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory Annual Report for 1979. J.E. Baumgartner and A.H. Kelly. 1981. *Jack-Pine Warbler* 59:53-59. (3012 birds of 74 species were banded in 1978 and 1979. Over half of the 2212 individuals banded in 1979 were Sharp-shinned Hawks, with 916 banded between 7-11 May.) NC

Demography of White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*). M.C. Baker, L.R. Mewaldt, and R.M. Stewart. 1981. *Ecology* 62:636-644. (A capture-recapture program was started in 1976 employing permanently located trap and mist-netting sites in Marin Co., CA. All 1034 individuals considered in this paper were banded as juveniles during the breeding season.) NC

The ecology and behavior of the Long-billed Curlew in southeastern Washington. J.N. Allen. 1980. *Wildl. Monogr.* No. 73. 67 pp. (Chicks were banded and marked with numbered colored plastic leg bands.) NC

Ecology of the Hungarian Partridge in north-central Montana. J.P. Weigand. 1980. *Wildl. Monogr.* No. 74. 106 pp. (Two types of walk-in, funnel-entrance traps baited with grain were used, and several techniques, including mist nets and cannon nets, were attempted to catch broods of Gray Partridge. Birds were banded and marked with vinyl bibs, using combinations of 9 different colors, 4 symbol colors, and 35 symbols. Nine females were instrumented with radio transmitters.)

Birds and land vertebrates on North Manitou Island. W.C. Scharf and M.L. Jorae. 1980. *Jack-Pine Warbler*



58:4-15. (Mist net captures aided in the compilation of a 164 species list for this Michigan Island.) NC

Some records of birds banded in Michigan. L.H. Walkinshaw. 1980. *Jack-Pine Warbler* 58:131-141. (Records of recoveries and returns of birds banded in Michigan are listed for 32 species. Also listed are a few odd and rarer birds banded, and number and species totals for banding in Muskegon County since 1957. Species for which bandings have totaled near or over 1000 at this location are: Black-capped Chickadee, 946; Swainson's Thrush, 1015; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1076; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1091; Red-eyed Vireo, 946; Tennessee Warbler, 4233; Nashville Warbler, 1967; Magnolia Warbler, 1199; Yellow-rumped Warbler, 903; Bay-breasted Warbler, 1162; Dark-eyed Junco, 2209; and White-throated Sparrow, 1155.) NC

Breeding biology and habitat use of the Upland Sandpiper in central Wisconsin. I.W. Ailes. 1980. *Passenger Pigeon* 42:53-63. (Adult sandpipers were captured on nests with a bow net or hand-held drop net and marked with a patagial tag on the right wing. Each tag was fluorescent orange marked with a black letter and number.) NC

Possible hybrid and longevity record for the Northern Oriole in Ramsey County. D. Meyer. 1980. *Loon* 52:36-37. (An oriole banded as an adult male at least 2 years old on 23 May 1972 was retrapped on 9 May 1979 at the same Minn. station. The bird showed phenotypic expression of a Baltimore x Bullock's "hybrid" or intergrade ancestry.) NC

Confirmed nesting of Mourning Warbler in Washington County. J.C. Olyphant. 1980. *Loon* 52:39-40. (Mist netting and banding were used to confirm the southernmost nesting record of this species in MN.) NC

Migration incidence and sequence of age and sex classes of the Sharp-shinned Hawk. R.N. Rosenfield and D.L. Evans. 1980. *Loon* 52:66-69. (From 1973 through 1978, 11,515 Sharp-shins were caught at Hawk Ridge, Duluth, MN, using mist nets, bow nets, and dho-ghazas.) NC

Great Horned Owl recovered in Illinois. R.T. Bohm. 1980. *Loon* 52:114. (An owlet banded 29 April 1978 in Benton County, MN was recovered on 18 Jan. 1980 in Harrison Township, IL, 350 miles from the banding site.) NC

A preliminary report on the breeding behavior of the Blue Jay in Anoka County, Minnesota. B. Hilton, Jr., and J.M. Vesall. 1980. *Loon* 52:146-149. (363 jays were banded and marked with colored plastic leg bands.) NC

Acquisition of plumage polymorphism in White-throated Sparrows. C.T. Atkinson and C.J. Ralph. 1980. *Auk* 97:245-252. (Migrants were mist netted during fall and aged by skull ossification. Each sex class is distinct-

ly polymorphic in breeding plumage. During winter, each sex fails to segregate into 2 distinct color morphs.) NC

1980 Calgary area bluebird trail results. D. Stiles. 1981. *Pica* 2:13-17. (Two Mountain Bluebirds nested in the same boxes as the previous year, as did one Tree Swallow. Another swallow was recovered 2½ miles away from the banding site of 1979, whereas a 1977-banded swallow was recovered 3 miles away. Another banded as a nestling in 1976 was recaptured 12 miles away in 1978 and 3 miles from the 1978 site in 1980.) MM

Foreign banding results

Behavior of the Grey-capped Social Weaver (*Pseudonigrita arnaudi*) in Kenya. N.E. Collias and E.C. Collias. 1980. *Auk* 97:213-226. (Mist nets and a drop trap were used to capture birds for color marking.) NC

Note: The following journals are now searched regularly in addition to those listed in the previous compilation: *Ecol. Monographs*, *Science*, *Wildlife Monographs*, and *Wildlife Soc. Bull.*

NC = Noel Cutright

MM = Martin K. McNicholl

Books

Nature Saskatoon. An account of the Saskatoon Natural History Society 1955-1980. C. Stuart Houston. 1980. Saskatoon Natural History Society, Saskatoon. i + 46 pp. \$2.50 (+0.50 postage) Canadian.

This history of the first 25 years of the Saskatoon Natural History Society is written by one of the society's founders, who also happens to be among the most prominent banders in western Canada. Although little in the publication is about banding specifically, readers will be interested to learn that the program for the society's first indoor meeting on 14 October 1955 was a talk by Houston entitled, "Rambles of a bird bander."

The book consists of a brief introduction and acknowledgements, a dedication to the late Jim Hogg, a brief history of precursor societies in Saskatoon, and several chapters on the current society. The latter include the history of its organization, summaries of meetings and outings, contributions to knowledge (studies) and to the

community (conservation and education endeavors), youth activities, relationships with other organizations, and biographies of several late society members and earlier prominent naturalists in the area. Appendices list all indoor meeting programs and all officers over the 25 years. The society has been a busy and active one, evidently not cursed by adopting its constitution on Friday the 13th!

This booklet is written well, and contains only a few minor printing or spelling errors. Although its subject matter will be of interest primarily to prairie naturalists and historians of natural history, it serves as a good example of how a club history can and should be placed on record. It may be purchased from the Blue Jay Bookshop, Box 1121, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3B4 Canada.

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