

RECENT LITERATURE

BANDING HISTORY AND TECHNIQUES

OBBA forum on the future of non-game bird banding: introduction. M. K. McNicholl. 1991. *Ont. Bird Band. Assoc. Newsletter* 36 (3):4-6. 218 First Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4M 1X4. (Brief history of banding, especially in Canada generally and Ontario specifically.) MKM

Long Point Bird Observatory, Ontario. M.G. Soares. 1986. *Amer. Birds* 40:21-25. *American Birds*, 960 Third Ave., N.W., New York, NY 10022. (Brief history and overview of North America's oldest extant bird observatory.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

OBBA forum on the future of non-game bird-banding: part 3. Increasing recovery rates. M.K. McNicholl. 1992. *Ont. Bird Band. Assoc. Newsletter* 37(2):4-5. 218 First Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4M 1X4. (Summary of address by D.J.T. Hussell on double-banding experiment for birds with small band sizes and use of banding in conjunction with observational surveys to monitor population trends.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Note: The 1984 *Calidris* paper by R.R. Veit and L. Johnson abstracted in *NABB* 17:143-144, 1992, was reprinted in *Amer. Birds* 41:212-236. 1987.

Plumage changes of a captive Black-breasted Buzzard *Hamirostra melanosternon*. D.L. Pepper-Edwards and E. Notley. 1991. *Corella* 15:77-78. Tarongo Zoo, Box 20, Mosman, NSW 2088, Australia. (An abrupt change from a pale plumage to dark coloration indicates that "color phases" of this little-known species really represent different ages.) MKM

Plumage variation and winter range of Harlan's Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis harlani*). D.P. Mindell. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:127-133. Dept. Zool., Brigham Young Univ., Provo, UT 84602. (In contrast to R.S. Palmer's handbook, which treats Harlan's Hawk as

a color morph, Mindell regards it as a distinct, polymorphic race, based on streaking and mottling in the tail. This paper is illustrated with numerous color photographs.) MKM

Keys to identifying Little Curlew. J. Boswell and B.N. Veprintsev. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:251-254. c/o British Library of Wildl. Sounds, Natl. Sound Archive, 29 Exhibition Rd., London SW7 2AS, U.K. (Review of features.) MKM

Field identification note on the immature Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). R.M. Schutsky. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:357. Muddy Run Ecol. Lab., 1921 River Rd., Box 10, Drumore, PA 17518. (White in the base of contour feathers on the head and nape of immatures can be suggestive of Bald Eagle when the bird is perched on a windy day.) MKM

Acquisition of nuptial plumage in the Red-winged Fairy-Wren *Malurus elegans*. E. Russell, I. Rowley, R. Brown and M. Brown. 1991. *Corella* 15:125-133. CSIRO Div. of Wildl. and Ecol., LMB4, P.O. Midland, WA 6056, Australia. (Plumage changes were documented in over 600 known-aged color-banded birds. Unlike some other fairy-wrens, most male Red-wings do not acquire full nuptial plumage until their second year. Variation in timing of acquisition of fully adult plumage is influenced by, but not determined by, social status.) MKM

Flush behaviour, catchability and morphometrics of the Ground Parrot *Pezoporus wallicus* in south-eastern Queensland. D.C. McFarland. 1991. *Corella* 15:143-149. Queensland Natl. Parks and Wildl. Serv., Box 42, Kenmore, Qld. 4069, Australia. (Flushing birds from nests and in groups yielded higher catches than other netting methods, totalling 115 parrots caught. Recaptures suggest that these parrots are highly sedentary for their first three months, with some dispersal between three and seven years, and annual survival of 60% of birds banded as free-flying individuals. Weight changes of chicks and various morphometric features are documented. These data suggest that iris color may be suitable for age determination and that culmen length may aid in sex determination.) MKM

A 10 year 9 month old goshawk with brown eyes. T.W. Carpenter. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:18. Dept. Biol. Sci., Bowling Green State Univ., Bowling Green, OH 43403. (Female Northern Goshawk banded as an adult at Hawk Cliff, Ont. in 1973 and recaptured at Whitefish Point, MI in 1983 still had brown eye even though eye color in adults usually becomes redder as the bird ages.) MKM

Identification and status of Bald Eagles, Golden Eagles, Turkey Vultures and Black Vultures in Ontario. B.W. Duncan. 1990. *Ont. Birds* 8:61-69. 1049 Kirkwall Rd., R.R. #1, Dundas, Ont. L9H 5E1. (Identification features beyond those in recent field guides on hawks are discussed. An immature Golden Eagle without any white in the underwing flight and covert feathers was caught at Hawk Cliff, Ont. in 1990.) MKM

Orange-banded variant in the Cedar Waxwing. R. Pittaway. 1991. *Ont. Birds* 9:7-8. Box 619, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0. (An increasingly reported variant of the Cedar Waxwing with orange instead of yellow-tipped tail may be diet-related. The author encourages observers of such birds to report them to Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes, Carnegie Mus. of Nat. Hist., Pittsburgh, PA 15213 and asks whether any examples have been seen in Bohemians.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Seasonal distribution and site tenacity of Black-crowned Night-Herons, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, banded in Canada. L.P. L'Arrivé and H. Blokpoel. 1990. *Can. Field-Nat.* 104:534-539. Toxicol. Evaluation Div., Health & Welfare Canada, Health Protection Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0L2. (Of 3362 night-herons banded in Quebec and Ontario, 754 in the prairie provinces and 31 in the Maritimes between 1942 and 1968, 107 had been recovered by the end of 1986. The authors classified 99 of these into three age groups, and summarized recovery locations by season. Recoveries of both young and adults show tenacity to their natal colony.) MKM

Highlights of back yard banding October 1, 1989 to September 30, 1990. P.J. Narraway. 1991. *Trail & Landscape* 25:97-99. c/o Ottawa

Field-Naturalists' Club, Box 3264, Stn. C, Ottawa, Ont. K1Y 4J5. (2947 birds of 47 species were banded, 76.6% (2139) of which were House Finches, a species first banded in the 1984-85 season, when it started to invade Ottawa. Tables document recaptures in Ottawa and elsewhere, foreign recaptures, total banded of each species, and a comparison of the percentage of ten species each year since the station started in 1982-1983.) MKM

Some interesting band recoveries. B. Duncan. 1991. *Ont. Bird Banding Assoc. Newsletter* 36(4):3. 1049 Kirkwall Rd., R.R. 1, Dundas, Ont. L9H 5E1. (Ontario-banded House Finch recovered in Alabama; 20-year old Red-tailed Hawk.) MKM

Banding Eastern Bluebirds as part of a cooperative project. W.F. Read. 1990. *Sialia* 12:135-136. #2, 165 Green Valley Dr., Kitchener, Ont. N1P 1K3. (Rationale for banding on nest box trails, precautions that should be taken to minimize disturbance to the nesting birds, and proposal for a cooperative project in Ontario.) MKM

Eastern Bluebird dispersal from Delaware County, Ohio. R.M. Tuttle. 1991. *Sialia* 13:54-55. 311 W. Central Ave., Delaware, OH 43015. (Four long-distance recoveries: one farther north in Ohio, two in Michigan, and one in Alabama.) MKM

Verified fourth nesting by pair of Eastern Bluebirds. H. Krueger. 1991. *Sialia* 13:91-92. Rt. 2, Box OR28, Ore City, TX 75683. (Both adults at a Texas box had been banded as nestlings in the vicinity. Band numbers were verified in each of four nestings in 1990, all of which fledged one or more young. Both members of the pair returned to the same box in 1991.) MKM

Harry Krueger's snake trap. Anonymous (H. Krueger). 1991. *Sialia* 13:63-67. Rt. 2, Box OR28, Ore City, TX 75683. (Although bluebirds will desert their young if trapped snakes are not removed soon after capture, banded bluebirds have been observed to renest in the same box after the snake is removed.) MKM

Donate your eyes to ornithology! R. Dickson. 1990. *Pica* 10(3):31-32. 5-2303 22 St. NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 3W5. (Sightings of Montana-marked

Bald Eagles and Northwest Territories-banded Trumpeter Swans in southwestern Alberta, and a plea to watch for color-banded Loggerhead Shrikes, over 500 of which were banded by Doug Collister in southeastern Alberta in 1989 and 1990.) MKM

Calgary area bluebird trails 1990. D. Stiles. 1991. *Pica* 11(3):4-13. 20 Lake Wapta Rise SE, Calgary, Alta. T2J 2M9. (1447 Mountain Bluebirds and 1057 Tree Swallows were banded in the Calgary area in 1990. Details are provided on several returns of both species and a few longer distance recoveries, all within Alberta. Longevity reports of six years of both Tree Swallow and Mountain Bluebird at Red Deer were local records.) MKM

A neotropical bird flies north: the Greenish Elaenia. J.G. Morgan and L.M. Feltner. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:242-244. 12107 Broken Bough Dr., Houston, TX 77024. (First U.S. record of *Myiopagis viridicata* netted and banded in Texas.) MKM

Yucatan Vireo appears in Texas. J.G. Morgan, T.L. Eubanks, V. Eubanks and C.N. White. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:245-246. 12107 Broken Bough Dr., Houston, TX 77024. (Netted and banded.) MKM

The Trumpeter Swan blasts back. J.L. Hindmarsh. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:260. Maryland Dept. Nat. Resources, Forest, Park and Wildl. Serv., Tamas State Office Bldg., Annapolis, MD 21401. (Observations of two wintering swans in Maryland color-marked as cygnets in Ontario.) MKM

Apparent drinking by the Common Poorwill (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*). R.M. Brigham. 1991. *Northwestern Nat.* 72:82-84. Dept. Biol., Univ. Regina, Regina, Sask. S4S 0A2. (Radio-tracking data in British Columbia indicate that Poorwill foraging flights are short distance and that they spend extended periods away from water, implying that the need for drinking is infrequent.) MKM

Special announcement. Anonymous. 1991. *Beaverhill Bird Observatory Newsletter* 5(2):3. Box 4201, Edmonton, Alta. T6G 4T2. Recoveries of Beaverhill Lake-banded birds included a Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler in Georgia and a Least Flycatcher in Guatemala.) MKM

The future of nongame bird banding in North America part 2: Where should we put our banding effort? R.D. Elliot. 1992. *Ont. Bird Band. Assoc. Newsletter* 37(1):3-7. Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 1590, Sackville, N.B. E0A 3C0. (Considers current knowledge gaps, practical constraints on banding and conservation needs that should be addressed by banding.) MKM

Calgary area bluebird trails 1991. D. Stiles. 1991. *Pica* 11(4):9-18. 20 Lake Wapta Rise SE, Calgary, Alta. T2J 2M9. (2008 Mountain Bluebirds and 973 Tree Swallows were banded in 1991. Numerous recoveries and returns are documented, all within Alberta except a bluebird 310 km. south of the banding site in Montana. Oldest recoveries of both species were five years.) MKM

Experiences with Tree Swallows in a backyard setting. J. McCullough. 1991. *Pica* 11(4):19-22; also reprinted in *Sialia* 14:95-96, 1992. 1223 Nicola Place NW, Calgary, Alta. T2K 2M7. (Intraspecific competition in 1991 resulted in the loss of two clutches of one pair when a second female built new nests on top of the first. Banding of the adults showed that the final, successful clutch was that of the second female.) MKM

Update on bird banding at Last Mountain Lake. A. Smith. 1991. *Blue Jay News* 89:1. Can. Wildl. Serv., 115 Perimeter Rd., Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0X4. (In 1990, 1768 birds of 64 species were banded at a new station in Saskatchewan. 2000 birds were banded there in the fall of 1991, including the first provincial bandings of Townsend's, Blackburnian and MacGillivray's warblers and Orchard Oriole.) MKM

Banding in Ontario: 1989. W.D. McIlveen. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:1-8; Commentary on the 1989 banding report. C. Risley and W.D. McIlveen. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:9-10. R.R. 1, Acton, Ont. L7J 2L7 (WDM); 510 Gilmour St., Peterborough, Ont. K9H 2J9 (CR). (43,667 birds of 198 species and distinctive races were reported banded by 12 individuals and six groups or stations. The most-banded species was American Goldfinch (3421), while 1022 House Finches may represent a levelling off in numbers of this expanding species.) MKM

Long Point Bird Observatory--1989 report. J.D. McCracken. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:111-117. LPBO, Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0. (16,247 birds of 142 distinct taxon were banded during Long Point's thirtieth year, for an all-time total of 354,204 birds of 246 species. Tables show numbers of each taxa banded at each station and data on 27 recoveries of 18 species. Highlights of some projects are also mentioned.) MKM

Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station eighteenth annual report--1988. B.W. Duncan, D. Fowler and S. Fowler. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:19-24. 1049 Kirkwall Rd., R.R. #1, Dundas, Ont. L9H 5E1. (1964 raptors of ten species were caught on 71 days between 27 August and 18 December, bringing the station total to 43,064 raptors banded since 1969. Migration counts are also given.) MKM

Bird migration on Prince Edward Point, spring 1989. C.M. Francis. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:25-32. c/o Biol. Dept., Queen's Univ., Kingston, Ont. K7L 3N6. (6062 birds of 106 species were banded between 30 April and 3 June. 78 birds of 15 species caught in 1989 had been banded at Prince Edward Point previously, while three others had been banded elsewhere.) MKM

Third time unlucky: band return of a Great Horned Owl. K. Chubb. 1990. *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:37. Avian Care and Res. Found., Box 182, Verona, Ont. K0H 2W0. (A female struck by a car in southeastern Ontario in February 1986 was rehabilitated, banded and released. She was found injured that July, rehabilitated and released again, then killed by a car in March 1987.) MKM

Northern Saw-whet Owl studies at Prince Edward Point In 1989. R.D. Weir. 1990. *Blue Bill* 37:2-6, reprinted without map in *Ont. Bird Banding* 22:38-41, 1990. 294 Elmwood St., Kingston, Ont. K7M 2Y8. (114 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded in the fall of 1989 marked the third lowest of 15 years of banding at Prince Edward Point, Ontario. Returns and recoveries over the 15-year period are summarized, as 1989 marked the last year of the project.) MKM

Mate swapping--can you swallow that! D. Collister. 1990. *Alta. Nat.* 20:145. 3426 Lane Cr.,

S.W., Calgary, Alta. T3E 5X2. (A pair of Tree Swallows banded at their nest box in Calgary in 1986 returned to the same box in 1987. However, after an unbanded pair appeared, the banded female remained and nested with the unbanded male.) MKM

Additions to the bird list of Wellington County. A.D. Brewer. 1990. *Ont. Birds* 8:87-91. R.R. #1, Puslinch, Ont. N0B 2J0. (Addenda since Brewer's 1977 publication on the avifauna of the Ontario County surrounding Guelph include an Eared Grebe trapped in 1983 and 18 bandings of Acadian Flycatcher.) MKM

Observations of a wintering kestrel. T.W. Bast. 1992. *Ont. Bird Band. Assoc. Newsletter* 37(2):5-6. c/o OBBA, 10 Paulson Court, St. Thomas, Ont. N5R 1M9. (A female American Kestrel banded near Alma, Ont. in January 1991 returned the following winter. When released 15 km. away to eliminate predation on trapped Snow Buntings, the kestrel was back in the trap by the time the author parked his car on the return home.) MKM

An interesting note on nesting Eastern Bluebirds. T.W. Bast. 1992. *Ont. Bird Band. Assoc. Newsletter* 37(2):6. c/o OBBA, 10 Paulson Court, St. Thomas, Ont. N5R 1M9. (After a pair of banded bluebirds fledged their first brood and started a second clutch 200 m. away, a banded female from the first brood was found sitting on the new nest.) MKM

Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 1990. R. Curry. 1991. *Ont. Birds* 9:18-44. 92 Hostein Dr., Ancaster, Ont. L9G 2S7. (Banding helped document records of Bewick's Wren and Cassin's Finch.) MKM

FOREIGN BANDING RESULTS

Breeding of the Short-tailed Shearwater on Muttonbird Island, New South Wales. S.G. Lane. 1991. *Corella* 15:107. Lot 6, Fairview Rd., Moonee, via Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450, Australia. (Two pairs, adults banded.) MKM

Some problems during the exodus of young shearwaters from Muttonbird Island, New South Wales. S.G. Lane. 1991. *Corella* 15:108. Lot 6,

Fairview Rd., Moonee, via Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450, Australia. (Numerous fledgling Wedge-tailed Shearwaters are attracted to and grounded by bright lights. Lane and his wife rescued, banded and released 144 of these birds in 1987 and 47 in 1990.) MKM

Seabird islands No. 211. Bramble Cay, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland. R. Elvish and T.A. Walker. 1991. *Corella* 15:109-111. Box 185, St. Lucia, Queensland 4067, Australia. (Red-footed and Brown Boobies, Great Frigatebirds, Common, Sooty and Crested Terns and Common Noddy were banded on Australia's northernmost island.) MKM

Seabird islands No. 214. Distant Cay, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland. S.G. Lane and H. Heatwole. 1991. *Corella* 15:117-118. Lot 6, Fairview Rd., Moonee via Coffs Harbour, New South Wales 2450, Australia. (Ten Brown Boobies and one Black-naped Tern were banded on a visit to this remote, little-known island.) MKM

A lek's icon. The courtship display of a Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock. P.W. Trail. 1985. *Amer. Birds* 39:235-240. Dept. of Ornithol. and Mammal., Calif. Acad. of Sciences, San Francisco, CA 94118. (Based on observations of 3500 courtship sequences and 400 matings in Surinam, all but one mating performed by color-banded males, and about one-third by color-banded females.) MKM

A new race of the Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* from Israel. H. Shiirihai and P.R. Colston. 1992. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* 112:129-132. Box 4168, Eilat 8102, Israel. (Banding of more than 5000 migrant Sand Martins (=Bank Swallows) in Eilat revealed that members of three recognizable subspecies were captured. Most were nominate *R.r. riparia*, with a few small pale birds referred to Central Asian *R.r. diluta*. Of 2000 spring migrants examined in detail, 105 were small, dark birds with spotted throats, referable to no known subspecies. A new subspecies *R.r. eilata* is named on the basis of migrants; a possible breeding range is east of Israel in Syria or Iraq, where the species is known to nest, but no specimens are available.) KCP

New information on the *Neospiza* buntings at Inaccessible Island, Tristan Da Cunha, and notes on their conservation. M.W. Fraser and D.J. Briggs. 1992. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* 112:191-205. "Sandbanks," Kenmuir Steps, Glencairn 7995, South Africa. (Color banding permitted observations of many aspects of the life histories of these little-known birds.) KCP

Departure behaviour of night migrants in the eastern Sahara. J.S. Ash. 1992. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* 112:244-247. Godshill Wood, Fordingbridge, Hants. SP6 2LR, U.K. (In September 1986 over 6000 Palearctic migrants were netted at Wadi Halfa (21°53'N, 31°19'E), northern Sudan. Of those that were banded, most were warblers. All were in good condition and were judged to be carrying sufficient fat to complete the desert crossing.) KCP

Unusual behaviour of a female Zebra Finch: possible egg dumping. A.M. Dunn. 1991. *Corella* 15:150-152. Zool. Dept., LaTrobe Univ., Bundoora, Vic. 3083, Australia. (During a brief absence of both color-banded members of a nesting pair, a neighboring color-banded female entered and sat in the nest. The clutch size of the nest after the observation period had grown by one egg.) MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl
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