

Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

A life with birds: Percy A. Taverner, Canadian ornithologist, 1875-1947. J. L. Cranmer-Byng. 1996. *Can. Field-Nat.* 110:1-254. (Available from Business Manager, *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, Box 35069, Westgate P.O., Ont. K1Z 1A2 for \$25.00 Cdn in hard cover or \$10.00 Cdn. in soft cover + \$2.50 postage. (Detailed biography of pioneer of many aspects of Canadian ornithology, of particular interest to banders as the originator of the first attempt to co-ordinate North American banding efforts.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Successful breeding by "satellite eagles." B.-U. Meyburg. 1994. *Newsletter of the World Working Group on Birds of Prey & Owls (WWGBP)* 19/20:4-5. Wangenheimstr. 32 14193, Berlin, Germany (Fears that antennae fitted on female eagles for satellite tracking might impede breeding were allayed by instances of successful nesting by transmitter-fitted Steppe and Imperial eagles and Peregrine Falcons.) MKM

Use of mist nets to capture Marbled Murrelets over the water. R. A. Burns, G. W. Kaiser and L. M. Prestash. 1995. *Northwest. Nat.* 76:106-111. 726 East 4th St. North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 1K2 (Two techniques using arrays of mist nets over water are described and their relative advantages and disadvantages discussed in relation to use over shallower vs. deeper waters. These methods enabled the authors to capture 314 Marbled Murrelets and several other birds in Alaska and B.C. between 1991 and 1994.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Recognizable forms! Cory's Least Bittern. R. Pittaway and P. Burke. 1996. *Ont. Birds* 14:26-40. Box 619, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 (Illustrated discussion of morphological variation, identification and history of this poorly known morph.) MKM

Prebasic (postnuptial) molt in free-ranging Harris' Sparrows, *Zonotrichia querula*, in the Northwest Territories, Canada. C. J. Norment. 1995. *Can. Field-Nat.* 109:470-472. (Studies of banded adults on the nesting grounds indicate that prebasic molt usually begins after their young have fledged, rather than during the period of feeding nestlings, as suggested by earlier studies of birds in captivity.) MKM

Differential growth of King Penguin chicks in relation to date of hatching. Y. M. VanHeezik, P. J. Seddon, C. J. Du Plessis and N. J. Adams. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:71-76. Natl. Wildl. Res. Center, Box 1086, Taif, Saudi Arabia (As determined on flipper-tagged birds.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Interspecific defense of pasture trees by wintering Yellow Warblers. R. Greenberg and J. S. Ortiz. 1994. *Auk* 111:672-682. Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, Natl. Zool. Park, Washington, D.C. 20008 (First study to observe intra- and interspecific territoriality in overwintering Yellow Warblers. Most aggression is directed at subordinate Magnolia Warblers which appear to rely on understory refuge in studied forest areas along arroyos of cattle pastures in southern Mexico. Some birds were color-banded; others were identifiable by color patterns.) JJM

Flight morphology, energetic condition, and the stopover biology of migrating thrushes. W. Yong and F. R. Moore. 1994. *Auk* 111:683-692. Dept. Biol. Sci., Univ. S. Miss., Hattiesburg, MS 39406 (Findings of most relevance to banders are that Gray-cheeked Thrush and Veery have lower wing loadings and thus: 1) have shorter stop-over times, 2) do not need as much stored fat, and therefore 3) will normally have less stored fat remaining after trans-Gulf flights. The latter doesn't indicate poor condition, but rather overall higher efficiency.) JJM

Partial migration and wintering localities of American Kestrels nesting in the Pacific Northwest. C. J. Henny and G. L. Brady. 1994. *Northwest. Nat.* 75:37-43. Natl. Biol. Surv., 3080

S.E. Clearwater Dr., Corvallis, OR 97333 (Recoveries from over 5100 kestrels banded in Idaho, Oregon and Washington helped sort migratory breeding individuals from permanent residents. Too few birds were banded west of the Cascades to determine the proportion of migrants, but approximately 89.5% of the population east of the Cascades is migratory, with most recoveries in Mexico. English inscriptions on bands may reduce the reporting rate of Mexican-wintering birds, but a higher likelihood of being shot in Mexico may cause a higher proportion of wintering birds to be recovered there than from U.S. states. Permanent residency appears to be higher in the Snake River Valley than other parts of Idaho and eastern portions of Oregon and Washington.) MKM

Banding Swainson's Hawk in southwest Saskatchewan. M. Bailey. 1996. *Discovery* 25:61-64. 9-11536 236 St., Maple Ridge, BC V4R 2C6 (Several anecdotes of helping Carol Bjorklund to band nestlings.) MKM

Raptor banding in a suburban backyard. T. W. Carpenter and A. L. Carpenter. 1995. *Ont. Bird Banding* 27:23-25. Dept. of Biol. Sciences, Bowling Green State Univ., Bowling Green, OH 43403-0212 (Ninety-five birds of five hawk, one falcon and two owl species were banded from 1976 to 1994 in Wayne, Michigan. The authors believe that the recapture in the spring of a Sharp-shinned Hawk banded the previous fall indicates overwintering in the vicinity. One of five recaptures was from Ontario, all others from Michigan. Five Eastern Screech-Owls have returned to the yard or nearby.) MKM

A summary of results for Ring-necked Ducks banded at Mountsberg, Ontario -1986[sic: 1980] -1994. W. D. McIlveen, M. L. Wernaart and A. D. Brewer. 1995. *Ont. Bird Banding* 27:26-30. R.R. 1, Acton, Ont. L7J 2L7 (Between 1980 and 1994, 2119 Ring-necked Ducks were banded at Mountsberg, with 152 recovered to date. Recoveries were from four Canadian provinces and 17 U.S. states, primarily Florida [44] and Ontario [30]. The oldest bird recovered was at least 10^{1/2} years old, but the fact that some bands need replacing within three years suggests that some longevity records are probably missed.) MKM

Thunder Cape Bird Observatory banding summary for 1994. D. Shepherd. 1995. *Ont. Bird Banding* 27:31-33. 285 Paisley Rd., Guelph, Ont. N1H 2P8 (High numbers of Chipping Sparrows, Pine Siskins and Northern Saw-whet Owls contributed to a record high of 8587 birds of 102 species banding at this site near Thunder Bay on the northern shore of Lake Superior.) MKM

Commentary on the 1994 banding report. E. A. Machell. 1995. *Ont. Bird Banding* 27:34-38. 10 Bateman Court, Whitby, Ont. L1P 1E5 (Tables compare the 15 most-banded species in Ontario in 1994 with their totals each year since 1985 and the 15 most-banded species 1985-1994 with their annual totals over the same period. Increases in some species resulted primarily from the establishment of Thunder Cape Observatory in western Ontario, where they are much commoner than at the larger number of stations in the southeastern portion of the province. Golden-crowned Kinglet numbers reflect the introduction of the new smaller size 0 band. Apparent fluctuations in House Finch numbers disappeared when Machell subtracted the total of two banders who targeted this species in some years.) MKM

Use of the Upper Arrow Reservoir at Revelstoke, B.C. by waterfowl and other waterbirds. E. M. Tremblay. 1993. *B.C. Birds* 3:3-14. Box 5151, Station B, Victoria, B.C. V8R 6N4 (Marked Trumpeter Swans seen in airport wetlands had been transplanted to Summer Lake, Oregon from West Yellowstone, Montana. Canada Geese banded in the Revelstoke area were recovered in Alberta and five northwestern U.S. states and a Mallard was recovered near Chicago.) MKM

Fall migration 1995 at Cold Lake and Beaverhill Lake. E. T. Jones. 1996. *Alta. Nat.* 26:6-7. 43 Westbrook Dr., Edmonton, Alta. T6J 2C8 (A nine-day mist-netting effort at Cold Lake on the Alberta-Saskatchewan border yielded 23 Sharp-shinned Hawks, but few passerines. Subsequent netting at a long-term site at Beaverhill Lake produced catches well below average, possibly because of a two-week delay in much of the migration there. Data are tabulated in detail for Yellow-rumped Warblers 1989-1995 and summarized for the top ten species in each of those years.) MKM

Trends in nocturnal migrant landbird populations at southeast Farallon Island, California, 1968-1992. P. Pyle, N. Nur and D. F. DeSante. 1994. *Studies in Avian Biol.* 15:58-74. Point Reyes Bird Observ., 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970 ("Adult indices," based on proportion of HY birds/adults + first-year birds among those handled for banding, were used to assess interannual variation in productivity among species breeding in western North America and migrating through the Farallons.) MKM

A Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*, increase in the Maritimes: implications to Black Ducks [sic], *A. rubripes*. R. G. D'Eon, N. R. Seymour, G. E. (B.) Newsome and A. H. Boer. 1995. *Can. Field-Nat.* 109:459-462. Kokanee Forests Consulting Ltd., 201-625 Front St., Nelson, B.C. V1L 4B6. (An examination of records of 82,799 Mallards, American Black Ducks and their hybrids in Canada's three Maritime provinces from 1965 to 1992 indicate a relatively stable population of American Black Duck in spite of gradual increases in Mallards and hybrids.) MKM

Possible evidence of double-brooding in Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) at Oneida Lake, New York. H.-W. Yuan. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:83-87. Dept. Nat. Resources, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853 (Seven pairs in which one or both adults were color-banded started second clutches while with one surviving chick from a first clutch. Most double-brooded pairs moved to a different nesting island between clutches.) MKM

Nesting biology and predation of Pigeon Guillemots in the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia. K. Vermeer, K. H. Morgan and G. E. J. Smith. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:119-129. Can. Wildl. Serv., c/o Inst. Ocean Sciences, Box 6000, Sidney, BC V8L 4B2 (Survival rates and growth were determined on chicks banded with plastic and numbered leg bands.) MKM

Chick growth in the California Gull: relationships with hatching asynchrony and parental age. B. H. Pugesk. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* U.S. Fish & Wildl. Serv., Natl. Wetlands Res. Centre, 700 Cajun Dome Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70508 (Fledging rates were found to be unrelated to hatching

asynchrony but related to chick mass and age of known-age banded adults at a colony in Wyoming.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Geographic and seasonal patterns of clutch-size variation in House Wrens. B. E. Young. 1994. *Auk* 111:545-555. Organizacion para Estudios Tropicales, Apartado 676, San Pedro de Montes de Orca 2050, Costa Rica (Nesting records of color-banded nesting birds in Costa Rica were combined with 3,246 museum records from British Columbia south to Tierra del Fuego and showed that clutches increase with latitude in both hemispheres. Actual evapotranspiration [AE], used as presumed measure of seasonality of food, does not explain variation. AE may be a poor predictor of wren food availability. The offspring survivorship-hypothesis is supported by the five-fold difference in seasonal clutch size decline with latitude, but alternatives and suggested research are also discussed.) JJM

Satellite tracking of a juvenile Lesser Spotted Eagle. B.-U. Meyburg, W. Scheller and C. Meyburg. 1993. *Newsletter of the World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls (WWGBP)* 18:3-5. Wangenheimstr. 32 14193, Berlin, Germany (Tracked from German hatching area until its premature death, apparently by drowning, in the Grecian Peloponnese.) MKM

Satellite tracking of Steller's Sea Eagle. B.-U. Meyburg and E. G. Lobkov. 1994. *Ibis* 136:105-106, reprinted in *Newsletter of the World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls (WWGBP)* 19/ 20:5-7, 1994. Wangenheimstr. 32 14193, Berlin, Germany (A fully-feathered nestling in the Kronotzky Biosphere Reserve in eastern Russia was fitted with a transmitter and tracked to the South Kuriles, after staying about two months post-fledging within the nest territory and then travelling south through the Kamchatka Peninsula and across the Krusen Straits.) MKM

Migration of a Greater Spotted Eagle tracked by satellite. B.-U. Meyburg, X. Eichaker, C. Meyburg and P. Paillat. 1995. *Newsletter of the*

World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls (WWGBP) 21/22:18-19. Wangenheimstr. 32 14193, Berlin, Germany (An adult captured in Saudi Arabia in October 1993 was fitted with a transmitter and tracked to its wintering area, 385 km. farther southwest within Saudi Arabia. Wintering home range and duration of stay on the wintering area were determined from transmitter data, as were daily travel distances and travel route of its spring migration northeast into its presumed breeding area in the West Siberian lowlands. An unexpected finding was the duration of stay in an arid area, as this species is considered the most wetland-oriented of the *Aquila* eagles.) MKM

Food and feeding ecology of breeding Silver Gulls (*Larus novaehollandiae*) in urban Australia. G. C. Smith and N. Carlile. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:9-17. Environ. Survey & Res. Branch, NSW Natl. Parks & Wildl. Serv., Box 1967, Hurtsville, Australia 2220 (Wing-tags showed the proportion of gulls from a nearby colony that visited a specific landfill and demonstrated the rapid turn-over of gulls visiting the landfill.) MKM

The breeding of Grey Herons (*Ardea cinerea*) in western Spain: the influence of age. M. Fernandez-Cruz and F. Campos. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:55-58. Catedra de Vertebrados, Facultad de Biologia, 28040 Madrid, Spain (Banding of nestlings helped determine age of breeding birds, mortality rates and rate of returns to the same colony among years.) MKM

Natal philopatry in the Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris d. diomedea*) on Lavezzi Island, Corsica. J.-C. Thibault. 1993. *Colonial Waterbirds* 16:77-82. Parc naturel regional de la Corse, rue General Fiorella, B.P. 417, F-20184, Corsica, France (Banding returns showed that males visited or bred near their natal site more frequently than females and that females more often changed subcolonies than males.) MKM

Editor's Note: Circumstances unfortunately no longer permit Joseph J. ("Jay") Mahoney to abstract papers in *Auk* for our Recent Literature

Section. We are grateful to him for his service to banders in preparing his abstracts. Readers interested in abstracting this important journal are invited to write the Literature Editor at the address listed on the inside front cover. MKM

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