Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

Early Saskatoon city bird banders. C.S. Houston. 2002. *Blue Jay* 60:79-82. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (Novelist Farley Mowat banded as a teenager in Saskatoon 1935-1937, when a 1936 recovery of an American Kestrel in Texas was considered by F.C. Lincoln in 1939 as one of the three most significant recoveries of that species to date, and as a young adult in Ontario in 1946. A table lists 1288 birds of 39 species banded by Arnold McPherson 1946-1952 in Saskatoon and nearby areas, and the text summarizes 33 recoveries and 11 returns. Stuart Thompson received a banding permit in 1935, but no record has been found of any birds that he banded.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Survival and population size estimation in raptor studies: a comparison of two methods. W. R. Gould and M.R. Fuller. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:256-264. Dept. Exper. Stats., Gerald Thomas Hall, New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces, NM 88003-0003 (Survival and population size of banded Peregrine Falcons nesting in Greenland from 1983 to 1991 were estimated by the Jolly-Seber model and by a method of estimating maximum mortality/minimum survival based on turnover and movements within the study area. A comparison of the results and the underlying assumptions of each method suggest that the Jolly-Seber technique provides more accurate results.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS, AND MEASUREMENTS

Variation in first year Ring-billed Gull. K.A. McLaughlin. 2001. *Ont. Birds* 19:114-118. 30 Bingham Rd., Hamilton, ON L8H 1N4 (Well-illustrated discussion of varability in Basic I plumage and of the random replacement of juvenile secondary coverts with adult-like gray feathers, primarily in Ontario Ring-billed Gulls, but also in Florida Laughing Gulls. Timing of molt in Ontario is also noted.) MKM

Molt of Heermann's Gull and other gulls. S.N.G. Howell. 2001. *Ont. Birds* 19:136-138. Point Reyes Bird Observ., 4990 Shoreline Hwy., Stinson Beach, CA 94970-9701 (On the basis of experience with Western Gulls, suggests that "first prebasic," "first prealternate" and "second prebasic" molts reported by J. Iron and R. Pittaway (*Ont. Birds* 19:136-138, 2001) on a Heermann's Gull in Ontario represent two, prolonged, molts, rather than three. Iron and Pittaway reply that the whiter head of the first alternate plumage and dusky head in basic plumages documented in their paper better fit their interpretation of three molts.) MKM

Comparative measurements of the Graceful and Yellow-spotted honeyeaters. K. Fisher and L. Fisher. 1996. *Corella* 20:102-103. Box 2209, Cairns, Qld. 4870, Australia (Mass, head/bill length, wing length, tarsal length, and tail length are tabulated by sex for 39 Graceful Honeayeaters of the wet tropical subspecies and 57 Yellow-spotted Honeyeaters, confirming that weight can separate these similar species reliably.) MKM

Blue-faced Parrot-Finch. K. Fisher and L. Fisher. 1996. *Corella* 20:103. Box 2209, Cairns, Qld. 4870, Australia (Mass, head/bill length, wing length, tarsal length and tail length are tabulated by sex for 38 birds captured over three years by mist-nets. Limited data suggest that males average longer tails than females, but that no measurements are reliably different between sexes. Brighter blue facial markings and brighter red rumps on males than females appear to be more reliable sex determination characteristics.) MKM

Age estimates and growth patterns in nestling Bonelli's Eagles. S. Manosa, J. Real and J. Codina. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:273-275. Dept. de Biol. Animal, Facultat de Biol., Univ. de Barcelona, Avda. Diagonal 645, 08028, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain (Mass, tarsal length, tarsal diameter, culmen length, central toe nail length, foot length, seventh primary length, and central tail feather length were measured at four-five day intervals on a presumed male nestling from eight to 48 days and on a presumed female nestling from 25-51 days after hatching.) MKM

First impressions can be deceiving. S. Kassai. 1997. *Pica* 17(3):30-33. 4619 Namaka Cr. NW, Calgary, AB T2K 2H5 (Between 1990 and 1995, the author was able to identify 65% of Northern Flickers encountered in the Calgary, Alberta, area to form. The Red-shafted form was the least numerous [7-26% of birds identified to form per year] but most stable form, while Yellow-shafted constituted 24-66% of observed forms, and intergrades 17-60%) MKM

Distribution, size and moult of migrant warblers in the southern Transvaal. J.M.H. Raijmakers and J.H.F.A. Raijmakers. 1994. *Safring News* 23:65-71. Box 5067, Vanderbijlpark 1900, South Africa (Approximately 1,000 Sylviidae warblers of eight species were caught in mist-nets from 1987 to 1994. Data on wing chord, tail length, tarsal length, culmen length, head length [bill tip to rear of skull], mass and molt [wing, rectrix, body, and duration] are summarized in text and tables for four of these species, all migrants: Garden Warbler, Whitethroat, Icterine Warbler, and Great Reed Warbler.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Banding in Ontario: 2000. T.L. Groh and M.L. Wernaart. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:1-14. R.R. 2, Campbellville, ON L0P 1J0 (A table lists number of each bird taxon, total birds, and total taxa banded by each of ten banding groups/observatories and eight individual banders, totalling 70,447 birds of 213 taxa. Graphs compare numbers of birds and "species" [actually taxa: species, hybrids, and distinct races] banded by each bander, group, or observatory.) MKM

Toronto Bird Observatory report -2000. R. Frost. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:15-16. 14 Durham St., Port Hope, ON L1A 1G7 (In 2000, 2,984 birds of 97 species were banded at the Toronto Bird Observatory, over 800 fewer birds, but the same number of species as in 1999. No new species were banded, but one towhee may have been an Eastern x Spotted hybrid. Brief reports are included on specific projects, and a table lists eight recoveries of five species, including Ontario-banded Northern Saw-whet Owl and Pine Siskin recovered in Virginia and Georgia respectively. Common Grackles were recaptured five and six years after banding.) MKM

Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory spring 2000 report. E.A. Machell. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:17-20. Box 2, Delhi, ON N4B 2W8 (Highlights of "the second most successful spring" to date are summarized. Four species banded for the first time included 51 Bohemian Waxwings, all banded on the same day! Tables list totals for the top ten species banded in 2001 in comparison with their totals in each year from 1995 to 2000 and 1995-2001 grand totals, the numbers of warblers banded each year 1995-2001, and the top ten 1995-2001 species totals.) MKM

Holiday Beach Migration Observatory–passerine banding summary. A. Chartier. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:21-24. 1442 W. River Park Dr., Inskter, MI 48141-1837 (Highlights are summarized from 973 birds of 62 species banded during the fall of 2001. Three species [Black-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, and European Starling] were banded for the first time, the hummingbirds [30] reflecting expanded permit conditions. Tables list earliest, peak and latest 2000 fall banding dates, as well as 1999 and 2000 banding totals and 2000 totals per net hour for each species, and all 2000 intra- and inter-season recaptures.) MKM

Raptor banding at Holiday Beach Conservation Area: 2000. J. St. Louis. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:24-25. c/o T. Groh, R.R. 2, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0 (Between 5 Sep and 6 Nov 2000, 734 raptors were captured during 52 days of banding. Higlights are summarized for each taxonomic group, with 583 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 64 American Kestrels, and 50 Red-tailed Hawks constituting the bulk of the captures.) MKM

Haldimand Bird Observatory 2000. Jim Smith. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:26-27. 358 Diltz Rd., R.R. 2, Dunnville, ON N1A 2W2 (In 2000, 12,496 birds were banded at three sites in southern Ontario, two in both spring and fall, the other [new] only in the fall. During the year, 1,521 birds were retrapped within 90 days of banding and 415 birds banded in previous years returned. All three captures of previously banded birds were from other sites in southern Ontario or nearby sites in New York, as were all four recoveries of HBO-banded birds.) MKM

Cabot Head Migration Monitoring Project: 2000 station report. A. Heagy. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:28-31. 1037 Brough St., London, ON N6A 3N5 (After a one-year hiatus, 1422 birds of 72 taxa were captured during the second spring of banding at Cabot Head on the Bruce Peninsula [between Georgian Bay and the main basin of Lake Huron]. This included recaptures of five birds of three species banded in Michigan, New York, and elsewhere in Ontario and of three birds banded locally in previous years. Three birds of three species were recovered in sparsely populated areas farther north. During the fall, 2306 birds of 80 taxa were banded, including 70 owls [67 Northern Saw-whet] in an owl-luring project. Tables list encounters of foreign bands, encounters elsewhere of Cabot Head-banded birds and spring, fall and overall totals for the species with the 20 highest totals in 2000 in comparison with their 1998 totals.) MKM

Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory: owl banding October 2000. E.A. Machell. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:32-34. Box 2, Delhi, ON N4B 2W8 (During five consecutive nights, 135 Northern Saw-whet Owls and one Barred Owl were banded in 569 net hours during which tape lures were used. Two previously banded saw-whets were also captured, one from Minnesota, the other from Pennsylvania.) MKM

The Trumpeter Swan restoration program in Ontario -2001. H. G. Lumsden. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:35-37. 144 Hillview Rd., Aurora, ON L4G 2M5 (After 20 years, a captive-breeding and release program has resulted in nesting by descendents of captive-bred/released birds, but not yet in large enough numbers to sustain wild breeding. In 2001, numerous wild swans established territories in southern Ontario, with 29 pairs known to have laid eggs, 18 pairs known to have hatched cygnets, and 13 pairs known to have raised young succesfully. Banding and wing tags have helped monitor the birds released in this project, with an improved type of tag introduced in 2000-2001 made by injecting plastic into a mold.) MKM

Influence of age, sex, and weather on timing of fall migration in Northern Saw-whet Owls in central Ontario. A.P. Jobes. 2002. *Ont. Bird Banding* 33:38-50. Trent Univ., Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8 (Data were collected from 716 owls captured in mist-nets at three sites in southeastern Ontario during seven fall migration periods. Sex was determined on all owls from wing-chord measurements. These results were compared with sexes determined from a wing-mass discriminant function on those birds from which mass was also measured. The discriminant function allowed sexes of more owls to be determined than by using wing-chord alone, but only 3.1% of sex determinations by wing-chord were inaccurate. Over three times as many females were captured as males and over three times as many hatch-year as after-hatch-year birds with hatch-year birds tending to be caught later in the evening than after-hatch-year birds. Local and northern relative humidity and wind speed were found to influence daily capture rates, while hourly capture rates were influenced by local and northern temperatures, humidity and wind speed.) MKM

Spotted Owls: resource and space use in mosaic landscapes. A.B. Carey and K.C. Peeler. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:223-239. Pacific Northwest Res. Stn., 3625 93rd Ave. S.W., Olympia, WA 98512-9193 (Radio telemetry was used to study home ranges of 14 pairs of Spotted Owls for four to six seasons in Oregon. As expected, the owls usually foraged primarily in old forests, but also foraged in particular younger forest units in which dusky-footed woodrats were present.) MKM

Thirty-two consecutive years of reproductive success at a Ferruginous Hawk nest. C.S. Houston. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:282-283. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (Banding of five young tended by two light-phase adults in 1969 contributed to the documentation of a Saskatchewan nest with a 32-year history of producing young every year, with a remarkably high average [3.5] number of young fledging per year.) MKM

Birds of the Qu'Appelle -second supplement. R. R. Hooper. 2002. *Blue Jay* 60:64-74. Box 757, Ft. Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0 (Addenda, recent records of rarities and status changes of 155 species since E.M. Callin's 1980 book on the birds of a species-rich valley in southern Saskatchewan

and since a 1986 compilation of addenda by C.S. Houston and M.I. Houston. Banding activities provided the first two summer records of Nashville Warbler and the first record of Hooded Warbler [fourth Saskatchewan record]). MKM

Speedy migration: Saskatchewan's first Osprey satellite transmitter. C.S. Houston and M. Martell. 2002. *Blue Jay* 60:74-79. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (A nesting female Osprey fitted with a transmitter by her nest on 2 Jul 2001 was tracked in the vicinity of her nest until 10 Aug, when her second young apparently fledged. She was then recorded from 30 Aug until 6 Sep at a site 57 km from her nest platform. Her migration from near Saskatoon, Sask., on 7 Sep 5049 km south to the Tempisque River, Costa Rica, on 26 Oct was tracked in detail, with distances travelled and duration of stay documented. She spent 51 days in migration, with a one-month stay in Chiapas, Mexico, and an initial three-day flight of 1145 km. Her 24-day flight north from Costa Rica on 28 Mar 2002 to her nest platform on 21 Apr is also documented in detail, with 17 days of "major travel" and seven days of little movement.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Seabird islands No. 231. North West Island, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland. K. Hulsman and T. A. Walker. 1996. *Corella* 20:107-110. Fac. Environ. Sciences, Griffith Univ., Nathan, Queensland 4111, Australia (Between Feb 1983 and Jan 1986, 135 adult Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and 21 chick Silver Gulls were banded.) MKM

Bird longevity in the eastern highlands of Zimbabwe -first report. D.B. Hanmer. 1994. *Safring News* 23:55-64. Mitsawa, Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe (Numbers of birds banded between Jul 1990 and Jun 1994 at five sites in varying habitat are documented in tables and text, with the numbers and percentage of birds recaptured [or seen if color-banded] less than one year later, and more than one, two and three years after banding. A table lists the number of each of 53 species recaptured or resighted to date more than one, two and three years after banding, noting that one Bronze Sugarbird [or Bronze Sunbird] has been "recaptured regularly" since being banded in 1984. Another table lists the ages to the nearest six months of the 45 oldest birds [of 13 species] documented to date.) MKM

MKM =Martin K. McNicholl

Osprey by George West