

her longevity record). Thus, based on their ages at initial capture and an assumed June hatch (Klimkiewicz 2008), the White-eyed Vireo was aged at least 10 yr 11 mo whereas the Acadian Flycatcher was aged at least 12 yr 1 mo. Although strictly anecdotal, the fidelity of these two individuals to this location after completion of prescribed treatments suggests that timber harvest that follows wildlife-forestry prescriptions can retain suitable breeding habitat for birds using these stands before harvest, while concurrently enhancing habitat for priority species.

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Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

Beaverhill Lake in a perspective over time. L. Carbyn. 2006. *Edmonton Nature News* 3(1):17-18. 137 Wolf Willow Cresc., Edmonton, AB T5T 1T1 (Very brief history, including research efforts of William Rowan, banding efforts of Edgar T. Jones and founding of Beaverhill Bird Observatory.) MKM

Lisa Takats Priestley and Chuck Priestley. L. Carbyn. 2006. *Edmonton Nature News* 3(1):30. 137 Wolf Willow Cresc., Edmonton, AB T5T 1T1 (Brief biographies of current Executive Director of

Beaverhill Lake Bird Observatory and her husband, both known for research on owls, for banding efforts at BLBO and for participation in various other Alberta projects.) MKM

EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Optimizing radio retention and minimizing radio impacts in a field study of Upland Sandpipers. T. W. Mong and B. K. Sandercock. 2007. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 71:971-980. Div. Biol., 232 Ackert Hall, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66506 (This study investigated the duration of radio-

transmitter attachment and the effects of method of attachment on Upland Sandpipers (*Bartramia longicauda*) nesting in Kansas. Four methods of attachment were used: transmitter glued directly to feathers, feather clipped and radio glued to stubble, feathers plucked and radio glued to skin, and harness attachments. Retention of harness-attached radios was greatest, with several birds retaining transmitters for more than one year. Transmitters glued to the skin showed the shortest retention time, less than one week. Duration of attachment for transmitters glued to feathers or feather stubble was intermediate, remaining attached for up to one month. Most mortality occurred within seven days of radio attachment and appeared due to avian predators.

Annual return rates of sandpipers with radios attached by the various glue methods were similar to return rates for other color-marked sandpipers that did not wear radios. Return rates for sandpipers with harness-attached radios were lower than return rates for sandpipers that did not wear radios. The authors concluded that glue attachment methods result in a relatively short duration of attachment, but do not affect annual return rates significantly. Harness-attached transmitters, on the other hand, provide a much longer attachment period, but appear to reduce migration or winter survival. Thus, careful consideration should be given to the study objectives when deciding which transmitter attachment method to use.) SG

Assessment of three methods used to attach radio-transmitters to migratory waders in northern New South Wales. D. A. Rohweder. 1999. *Corella* 23:7-10. School of Resource Sci. & Manage., Southern Cross Univ., Box 157, Linsmore, New South Wales 2480, Australia (Between 1995 and 1997, 32 shorebirds of two plover and eight scolopacid species were caught in mist nets, a butterfly net or a walk-in trap and fitted with transmitters. Transmitters were attached to the bird's lower back directly, with gauze to a patch of trimmed feathers on the lower back or directly to a patch of trimmed feathers on the back. Retention time ranged from 11 to 55 days, with no significant difference among attachment methods. Heavier birds tended to retain transmitters longer than lighter birds. Transmitter attachment affected behavior of birds at least briefly and appeared to

cause some to leave the area for two to three days after capture. One Eastern Curlew was never encountered after capture.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Comments on beak deformities at Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve. P. H. Van Eeden. 2004. *Afring News* 33:45-48. EcoMonitor, Box 13434, Norkem Park, 1631, South Africa (Examples of deformities in mandibles, toes, knee and/or eyes on several passerine species, with remarks on possible causes of such deformities.) MKM

One-eyed raptors. D. Whitelaw. 2004. *Afring News* 33:49. 24 Twickenham Rd., Mowbray, 7700 Cape Town, South Africa (A Black-shouldered Kite captured with an old eye injury and a Rock Kestrel with more recent foot injuries both had normal masses, suggesting that they were hunting successfully in spite of their handicaps.) MKM

Biometrics and moult of White-throated Canaries *Crithagra albogularis* in South Africa and Namibia. V. L. Ward, U. Franke and J. Johnson. 2004. *Afring News* 33:52-53. West. Cape Nature Conservation Bd., P/Bag X5014, Stellenbosche, 7599, South Africa (Tables document wing, culmen, tarsus, and tail of sexed and unsexed birds, with little difference between genders or locations. Adults were heavier in South Africa than in Namibia. Molt data are graphed for each area by time of year.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

The changing status of the Northern Mockingbird in the Greater Toronto area. R.B.H. Smith. 2006. *Ont. Birds* 24:106-159. 1002-20 Harding Blvd. W., Richmond Hill, ON L4C 9S4 (Between 1955 and 2004, 232 mockingbirds were banded in Canada, 190 in Ontario, with no recoveries by 2005. At Long Point, ON, one-to-three were banded per year 1975-1980 and two-to-five during the 1990s.) MKM

First record of Cassin's Vireo for Saskatchewan. A.R. Smith and P.S. Taylor. 2008. *Blue Jay* 66:73-75. Box 154, Avonlea, SK S0H 0C0 (Caught in mist net at Last Mountain Lake Bird Observatory, banded and photographed.) MKM

Carpenter ants favourite Pileated Woodpecker food. R. Bonar. 2001. *Bluebird* 23(4):16-17. Weldwood of Canada, Ltd., Hinton Div., 760 Switzer Dr., Hinton, AB T7V 1V7 (1600 hours of observations of 32 radio-tagged woodpeckers east of Jasper National Park, AB, indicated that locating and remembering locations of ant colonies during the fall facilitates quick location of food sources in harsher winter weather.) MKM

Habitat selection of female Turkeys in a managed pine landscape in Mississippi. D. A. Miller and L.M. Conner. 2007. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 71:744-751. Southern Timberlands Res. & Develop., Weyerhaeuser Co., Box 2288, Columbus, MS 39704 (Managed pine forests in the Southeast provide suitable habitat for Eastern Wild Turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*). The authors used data collected over an eight-year period from more than 125 radio-marked female turkeys to examine home ranges and seasonal habitat use in Mississippi. Habitat selection was consistent among the eight years. Females moved from intensively managed pine forests to soybean-hardwood habitat during autumn and winter before returning to the pine forests again during the spring. During pre-incubation, female turkeys were more likely to use pine areas that contained recently burned or thinned stands. Most nests were found in areas that contained recently burned or thinned stands, presumably because of the herbaceous vegetation present in such stands. During summer, presence of females was associated positively with road density, agricultural density and burned pine stands. The study supports the finding of others that have documented the positive effects on Wild Turkey populations that result from periodic fires (every three-seven years) in intensively managed pine forests.) SG

Duck banding on Beaverhill Lake. P. Pryor. 2006. *Edmonton Nature News* 3(1):13-14. address not indicated. (After the discovery of botulism caused a planned banding project in 1975 to be cancelled, the Canadian Wildlife Service banded about 25,400 ducks on and near Beaverhill Lake, Alberta from 1984-1992, when "priorities changed." The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also banded about 1000 ducks in 1998-1999. About 75% of the

ducks banded were Mallards and Northern Pintails, with Blue-winged Teal and Redheads comprising most of the others. Six American Black Ducks and two American Black Duck/Mallard hybrids were the rarest ducks banded. Mallard and Gadwall recoveries have been "split evenly" between Pacific and Central flyways, while Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Green-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, and Canvasback returns come mainly from the Pacific Flyway. Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, and Redhead recoveries have been split between the Central and Mississippi flyways, with about 25% of Blue-winged Teal reaching the southern U.S., Mexico, the Caribbean or northern South America.) MKM

House Wren antics at Beaverhill Lake. M. Quinn and G. Holroyd. 2006. *Edmonton Nature News* 3(1):19. Quinn's address not indicated: Holroyd: Can. Wildl. Serv., 4123 122 St., Edmonton, AB T6J 1Z1 (Banding at over 200 nesting attempts in nest boxes in central Alberta 1986-1988 showed that 27% of males were polygynous. These males started second matings when the first female was on her nest and helped feed the second brood of young.) MKM

Mountain Bluebirds. J. Park. 2006. *Edmonton Nature News* 3(1): 20. address not indicated. (Brief account of history of nest box trail near Edmonton along which Mountain Bluebirds declined considerably, then increased again. Park banded 1,233 bluebirds along this trail between 1971 and 2005. Bands helped document nest success, returns and longevity.) MKM

Detectability and response rates of Ferruginous Pygmy-Owls. A.D. Flesch and R.J. Steidl. 2007. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 71:981-990. School of Nat. Resources, Univ. Arizona, 325 Biol. Sci. E., Tucson, AZ 85721 (The purpose of this study was to develop an efficient method for estimating abundances of Cactus Pygmy-Owls (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*), a rare sub-species in the American Southwest. The authors first located radio-marked birds and then, from a distance of about 300 m, broadcast playbacks of the species' vocalizations. For each known-location bird, the authors recorded the time that elapsed before the first response was heard and then estimated the distance from the playback at which that first

response was made. During the chick-rearing period, only adult males responded to playbacks and then only about half of the time. However, during the natal dispersal period, adult males responded to playbacks during 100% of trials; juveniles [males and females combined] responded to about 90% of playback trials. They conducted a similar playback experiment using 50 occupied nesting sites [instead of marked birds] and playback distances of 100, 300 or 500 m during incubation and brooding periods. Response rate decreased from 100% when the distance between playback and occupied nest was 100 m to 78% at 500 m. Elapsed time between playback and first response averaged 2.1 minutes; 98% of first responses occurred within less than 6 minutes. The authors provide guidelines for conducting large-scale surveys using playbacks to estimate pygmy-owl abundance.)SG

A celebration of flight. S. Weidensaul. 2003. *Hawk Migration Studies* 29(1):13-16. 778 Schwartz Valley Rd., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972 (including recovery at Cape May, NJ, of Red Knot banded 15 years previously in Brazil.) MKM

Dispersal patterns and post-fledging mortality of juvenile Burrowing Owls in Saskatchewan. L.D. Todd. 2001. *J. Raptor Res.* 35:282-287. Biol. Dept., Univ. Regina, Regina, SK S4S 0A2 (In 1997, 12 owlets were captured inside artificial nest burrows or in noose carpets shortly before fledging and fitted with necklace-style radio-transmitters. Another 33 were captured and fitted with transmitters in 1998. None of the transmitter-fitted owls were predated in 1997, whereas 45.5% were predated in 1998, primarily by avian predators. Dispersal before migration was significantly farther in 1997 than in 1998. Much higher vole populations in 1997 than in 1998 probably explained these differences between the years. Duration of time at burrow before migration did not vary between years and in both years some juveniles remained close to natal burrows for most of the post-fledging period, others dispersed once to a different burrow or cluster of burrows and still others gradually moved farther away to new burrows a few days at a time.) MKM

Nocturnal foraging and habitat use by male Burrowing Owls in a heavily cultivated region

of southern Saskatchewan. R. A. Sissons, K. L. Scalise and T. I. Wellicome. 2001. *J. Raptor Res.* 35:304-309. Grasslands Natl. Park of Canada, Val Marie, SK S0N 2T0 (Eleven male owls were captured in baited noose carpets and fitted with radio-tags. One was predated and the transmitters of six others failed within a few days. Home range sizes and details of habitat use were studied on the remaining four during June and July.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Greatest longevity record for Gurney's Sunbird *Promelops gurneyi*. D.H. De Swardt. 2004. *Afring News* 33:38-39. Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa (A male sugarbird banded in 1994 was recaptured 120 months later at the banding site in 2004, and estimated to be 12 years old. Longevity data from this species to date are tabulated, and longevity records of other sunbird species reviewed.) MKM

Ringling and mensural data for the Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas*. P. H. Van Eeden. 2004. *Afring News* 33:40-44. EcoMonitor cc, Box 13434, Norkem Park, 1631, South Africa. (Data are summarized for 470 hornbills captured in mist nets, walk-in traps and as nestlings and banded in southern Africa between 1949 and 2002. Tables, a graph, a map, and text summarize numbers caught per year, age distribution, distribution of captures, age/sex distribution, recoveries, some mensural data and molt data over the banding history of this species. Data on more mensural features collected on 11 birds by the author are also tabulated.) MKM

Ethical involvement of ringers in research projects. G. Grieve. 2004. *Afring News* 33:50-51. (including tick infestation rates on five passerine species banded in Norway.) MKM

Pale Chanting-goshawk Ringing Group: 2001-2004. G. Malan. 2004. *Afring News* 33:56-59. Dept. Nature Conservation, Univ. Tech., Private Bag X680, Pretoria 0001, South Africa (By March 2004, 3,989 Pale Chanting-goshawks had been banded in southern Africa, with 241 recoveries. In 2001, a group of 11 banders started a color-banding program. Adult male weights have been found to increase significantly with latitude and to decrease

with longitude, whereas adult female weights also increased with latitude, but were nearly linear with longitude. A graph shows numbers banded annually 1948-2002, and a table lists color banded birds by code, age, gender, coordinates and province.) MKM

A little bush in the desert: third record for Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*) in Namibia. 2004. U. Franke. *Afring News* 33:60. Tal 34, D-80331 Munchen, Germany (Third banding record, with table of details of all three.) MKM

Summary of the 2003 ringing year in Namibia. H. Kolberg. 2004. *Afring News* 33:61-64. Survey Unit, Directorate Sci. Serv., Ministry Environ. & Tourism, Windhoek, South Africa (10,426 birds were banded at 314 locations in Namibia from 1 Jul 2003 to 30 Jun 2004. Highlights are summarized in the text, while tables list numbers of birds and species banded by each bander, as well as their numbers of recaptures, numbers of the top 20 species banded, numbers of each species in four taxonomic groups and the top 20 banding locations.) MKM

Bird ringing in the Free State National Botanical Gardens, Bloemfontein, with notes on recaptures. D.H. De Swardt, G.P.J. Grobler, and H.D. Oschadleus. 2004. *Afring News* 33:65-70. Dept. Ornithol., Box 266, Natl. Mus., Blomfontein 9300, South Africa (History and summary of banding efforts between Aug 1985 and Apr 2004, when 1311 birds of 50 species were banded and 130 recaptures of 21 species were obtained. Tables list numbers of each species banded and highlights of the recaptures.) MKM

Getting out and about. P. Nupen. 2004. *Afring News* 33:71. 7 Edinburgh Rd., Oostersee, Parrow, 7500, South Africa. (During a week at a location in the Western Cape region of South Africa, 297 birds of 85 species were banded.) MKM

Notes on a ringing season in north-east Limpopo Province. C.T. Symes. 2004. *Afring News* 33:72-78. School of Botany & Zool., Univ. KwaZulu-Natal, P/Bag X01, Scottsville, 3209, South Africa (During studies of Greyheaded Parrots at six sites in 1999 and 2000, 256 birds of 72 species were captured and banded. These are listed in an appendix, and a table summarizes

numbers of individuals and species caught at the four sites visited more than once, as well as effort and capture rate at each. Further details on molt, recaptures, brood patch, and unexpected occurrence are mentioned for 22 species.) MKM

Report on the first AFRING waterbird ringing course, Watamu, Kenya. D. M. Harebottle and C. Jackson. 2004. *Afring News* 33:79-83. Afring, Avian Demog. Unit, UCT, Rondebosche, 7701, South Africa (During training sessions as part of an African-European co-operative banding project, 288 birds of 30 species were caught and banded at two sites. Of these, 231 were shorebirds of one Crab Plover, five plover and nine scolopacid species and 39 were of 15 other species.) MKM

Quantifying the origin of Woodcock wintering in France. I. Bauthian, F. Gossmann, Y. Ferrand and R. Julliard. 2007. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 71:701-705. UMR 5173 CNRS-MNHN-PARIS VI, Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, CRBPO, 55 rue Buffon, F-75005 Paris, France (The authors compiled a 20-year data set of more than 35,000 woodcocks banded in France during winter. Of 522 banded woodcocks recovered outside of France, more than 320 occurred during migration. A plot of the locations of woodcocks recovered during migration suggests two distinct flyways used by birds wintering in France. One flyway parallels the east coast of the North Sea and leads into Scandinavia; the other half goes over eastern European countries into Russia. More than half of the woodcocks using the North Sea flyway wintered and were banded in the southern regions of France, as were nearly all woodcocks using the eastern flyway. Thus, the wintering woodcock population in France appears to be comprised of individuals from two distinct breeding populations—one that winters almost exclusively in northern France, migrates along the North Sea and breeds in Scandinavia and a second that winters primarily in southern France, migrates over eastern Europe and breeds in Russia.) SG

SG = Steven Gabrey
MKM = Martin K. McNicholl