

Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

FAN 2006 awards. Anonymous. 2007. *Nature Alberta* 37(1):10-11. Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (Including brief biography of Don Stiles on his receiving an Honorary Life Membership in the Federation of Alberta Naturalists for his many contributions to the work of naturalists' organizations in the Calgary area and Alberta generally and for his natural history studies as illustrated by a photograph of him banding a bluebird on his long-term nest-box trail.) MKM

The Calgary Bird Banding Society. Anonymous. 2009. *Nature Alberta*. c/o Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759, Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (Brief history, objectives and activities of Calgary Bird Banding Society, including participation in the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, operation of Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, banding of Northern Saw-whet Owls and other birds in foothills west of Calgary and of Swainson's Thrushes and other birds on the Osa Peninsula of Costa Rica and other activities.) MKM

EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Watch for –wing-tagged Turkey Vultures in Alberta. R.W. Nelson. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 39(1):7-8. 4218 63rd Ave., Camrose, AB T4V 2W2 (As part of an Alberta nesting vulture study started in 2003, Rick Morse and Nelson wing-tagged 20 nestlings in 11 nests in 2008. Colors of tags applied in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Venezuela are described and addresses listed of researchers who should be contacted to report sightings.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Apparent hybrid White-rumped Sandpiper x Dunlin at Rock Point Provincial Park. J. Pawlicki. 2009. *Ontario Birds* 27:128-132. 70 Gaslight Trail, Williamsville, NY 14221. (Photo-

graphs and detailed descriptions of size, body structure, bill color, length and shape, leg and toe color and length, bill color, length and shape and plumage features of second-year bird observed near Dunnville, ON, from 17-23 Aug 2008 in comparison with several "peep" species.) MKM

Characteristics and distribution of *Ardea herodias fannini* with comments on the effect of washing on the holotype. R.W. Dickerman. 2004. *Northwestern Naturalist* 85:130-133. Mus. of Southwest. Biol., Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131 (Culmen and tarsus measurements are tabulated for two races of Great Blue Herons and intergrades between them from specimens collected along the Pacific Coast from Alaska to California. The very dark color of the holotype of *A. h. fannini* and some specimens of other races is shown to have resulted from washing and not to be the original color of these specimens.) MKM

Is Fall Creek a haven for hybrids? Recent increase in detections of Spotted Owl-Barred Owl hybrids in a late-successional reserve. S. Turner-Hane, R. Claremont, S. Ackers, R. Anthony and E. Forsman. 2005. *Northwestern Naturalist* 86:119. Oregon State Univ., Dept. Fish & Wildl., Corvallis, OR 97331 (The number of hybrid owls at an Oregon site increased from one in 1999 to at least seven in 2004, with apparent fertile offspring.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BIRD BANDING

Banding report for warblers and vireos Beaverhill Lake 2002. E.T. Jones. 2003. *Edmonton Naturalist* 31(1):13-14. c/o Edmonton Natural History Club, Box 1582, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N9 (General remarks on bird populations in the Beaverhills Lake area of Alberta in 2002 in comparison with previous 60 years, with numbers of top 15 vireo and wood-warbler species captured each year from 1993-2002. Catch rates per 100 net-hours are included for May and fall of each year.

Cape May Warblers had recovered considerably in 2002 from a considerable decline in 1984-1985, but had not reached 1978 levels.) MKM

Early nesting of Pine Siskin in Ontario. A. Salvadori, S. Blue and R. Frank. 2009. *Ontario Birds* 27:120-122. 17 Colborne St., Guelph, ON N0B 2K0 (Numbers of siskins banded at two stations in the Guelph area are tabulated for each year from 1998 to 2008. Cloacal protuberances, brood patches and fledged young of captured birds provided evidence of early nesting in 2009. Recaptures of 23.6% of 2,758 birds captured from 7 Jan to 31 May that year showed that some determinations of sex by plumage according to Pyle's criteria were incorrect.) MKM

Two novel behaviours in a Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*). M. Boyd. 2009. *Ontario Birds* 27:136-138. Apt. 303, 635E 4th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5N 1J7 (Starvation as an explanation for scavenging on a scoter carcass by an owl near the tip of Long Point, ON, and for hiding in a hole in the bank when approached by an observer was supported when the bird was captured and found to weigh 5.9 g less than when it was banded nearby two days earlier.) MKM

Beaverhill Bird Observatory 1984 to 2006. L. Priestley. 2007. *Nature Alberta* 36(4):18-19. c/o Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (Brief overview and history of activities of first 22 years of bird observatory near Tofield, AB, with descriptions of migration monitoring, MAPS, nest box monitoring, Northern Saw-whet Owl migration, and public education programs locally and province-wide raptor nest record and Alberta Nocturnal Owl Survey programs.) MKM

Turkey Vulture studies in east-central Alberta, 2003-2007 [:] Turkey Vulture update. R.W. Nelson, F. Kunnas and D. Moore. 2008. *Nature Alberta* 37(4):14-21. 4218-63rd St., Camrose, AB T4V 2W2 (Data on nest structures, nest productivity, nest-site tenacity, population size and increase and nesting season phenology, based on 19

nests. A table itemizes numbers of young and nest success at each nest from 2003 to 2007 and a bar graph indicates chronology of first eggs laid, first eggs hatched and second young fledged from 2003 to 2007.) MKM

The nesting phenology of Northern Saw-whet Owl and Boreal Owl in central Alberta. L. Priestley. 2008. *Nature Alberta* 38(3):20-25. c/o Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (Based on nesting records of 240 saw-whet and 37 Boreal owl nests checked during banding at nests between 1985 and 2007.) MKM

Ferruginous Hawks in Canada: a three-decade prognosis. J. Schmutz. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 38(4):30-36. CSALE, University of Saskatchewan, 51 Campus Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A8 (Banding data contributed to long-term studies on population trends, with a stable period, two periods of decline and one period of increase over 33 years. High nest-site tenacity was shown by band returns.) MKM

Extreme fighting arrives in Alberta: the spring 2008 Peregrine Falcon migration! G. Holroyd and H. Trefry. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 39(1):33-37. Can. Wildl. Serv., 4123 122 St., Edmonton, AB T6J 1Z1 (An adult female fitted with a transmitter in Edmonton in 2006 and displaced in 2007 was found to winter in Colombia in 2007-2008. The transmitter showed that she headed north on 4 Apr and documented her precise route and distances flown each day through Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Mexico, Texas, Colorado and Montana almost 900 km to Edmonton, with one weather-induced detour. After confronting a storm on arrival in Edmonton, she flew south to Montana, returning to Edmonton again on 24 Apr, where she fought with a female that had displaced her the previous year. A third female displaced the second, while the transmitter-fitted bird spent a few days wandering among Calgary, Red Deer and Edmonton, eventually being found exhausted on a river bank and taken for rehabilitation. A male fitted with a transmitter at Fort Saskatchewan, AB, wintered in Mexico, headed north through several

Mexican states, Texas, the Colorado-Kansas border and Wyoming to Fort Saskatchewan, travelling 1150 km at about 300 km per day. After a fight with another male, he was displaced to a new nest-site and eventually raised young there with a female that had been present with another male, making the father of the eggs/young that he raised uncertain.) MKM

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*): nesting phenology and fledging success in central Alberta. L.T. Priestley and E. DeGroot. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 39(3):35-37. c/o Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (Data collected between 1992 and 2008 during banding activities at 145 of 156 nests examined in central Alberta were used to document timing of nesting and fledging success.) MKM

A back yard bird bander's banter. E. Kuyt. 2010. *Nature Alberta* 39(4):33. c/o Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 (A Black-capped Chickadee banded as AHY in Edmonton, AB, in 2001 was recaptured with a very worn band [replaced] seven yr, 10 mo later at the same site in 2009. A Chipping Sparrow banded at the same site as AHY in Jul 2005 was recaptured there in Jul 2009.) MKM

Demography of Northern Spotted Owls on the east slope of the Cascade Range, Washington. S.G. Sovern, E.D. Forsman and M. Taylor. 2009. *Northwestern Naturalist* 90:166. Pacific Northwest Res. Stn., U.S.D.A. Forest Serv., 802 West Second St., Cle Elum, WA 98922 (A 2003 Cormack-Jolly-Seber analysis of 1570 capture-recaptures of 724 owls showed that survival estimates varied with time and recapture probability varied between sexes and was correlated positively with the proportion of owls that nested in a given year. Data for 2009 indicated a decline of 6% per year.) MKM

Peregrine Falcon survival and re-sighting frequencies on the Washington coast, 1995-2003. D.E. Varland, L.A. Powell, M.K. Kennedy and T.L. Fleming. 2009. *Northwestern Naturalist* 90:166. Rayonier, 3033 Ingram St., Hoquiam, WA

98550 (Between 1995 and 2003, 45 female and 31 male Peregrine Falcons of three races were captured and color-banded. Fifty-two [68%] of these birds were less than one year old, 24 [32%] more than one year old. Based on re-sightings of 39 [51%] of these birds at least once, apparent survival rate over three months was estimated at about 87.9%, the annual rate at 59.7%. Re-sighting probabilities were lower in summer than in other seasons, when re-sighting probabilities were about 45% for juveniles, 35.9% for adult females and 16.7% for adult males.) MKM

The importance of forest structure around Northern Goshawk nest sites. W.L. Harrower, K. Stuart-Smith and K.W. Larsen. 2007. *Northwestern Naturalist* 88:112. Univ. Victoria, Box 3020, Stn. CSC, Victoria, BC V8W 4JC (Post-fledging movements of 15 nestlings radio-tagged in southeastern British Columbia indicated that adults tended to restrict their activities more to larger amounts of mature forests than did fledglings.) MKM

Non-breeding period observations of a marked population of urban-nesting Cooper's Hawks. A.C. Stewart. 2007. *Northwestern Naturalist* 88:123. B.C. Conservation Data Centre, Ministry of Environ., Box 9358, Stn. Prov. Gov., Victoria, BC V8W 9M2 (From 1996 to 2006, 617 male and 590 female Cooper's Hawks were banded in the greater Victoria area. Although both sexes were banded in nearly equal numbers [51% females and 49% males], color-banded males were observed by members of the public much more frequently [597 records] than females [176 records], apparently because males exploited bird feeders more frequently than females.) MKM

Purple Martin recovery in British Columbia: productivity and inter-colony movements. L.M. Darling and J.C. Finlay. 2002. *Northwestern Naturalist* 83:68. Parks & Protected Areas Branch, B.C. Ministry of Water, Land & Air Protection, Box 9398 Stn. Prov. Govt., Victoria, BC V8W 9M9 (Sightings of banded birds helped assess productivity and survival in a growing population of martins nesting on Vancouver Island. Nine percent of

nestlings banded on Vancouver Island in 1998 to 2000 were resighted in British Columbia, Washington and Oregon. Twenty-one percent of resighted sub-adults returned to their natal colonies, while others were observed breeding up to 500 km away.) MKM

Habitat use by sage grouse in altered landscapes. F.A. Hall. 2002. *Northwestern Naturalist* 83:70. Calif. Dept. Fish & Game, 728-600 Fish & Game Rd., Wendel, CA 9616 (Habitat use, movements and dispersal was studied on 65 female Greater Sage-Grouse radio-marked in northern California. Dispersal from leks to nest sites was almost twice as far by successful hens than unsuccessful hens and second nesting attempts were almost twice as successful as first attempts. Within one year of capture, 28% of marked females were year-round residents within 7 km of their lek of capture, 34% migrated up to 25 km and 38% up to 74 km. Some females occupied territories that extended from northeastern California into northwestern Nevada.) MKM

Clines in life history characteristics of the Spotted Owl in Washington. L.L. Hicks, D.R. Herter and R. J. Early. 2003. *Northwestern Naturalist* 84:57-67. Plum Creek Timber Co., Suite 2300, 999 3rd Ave. , Seattle, WA 98104 (Between 1990 and 1999 all known territorial adult and subadult Spotted Owls and over 98% of juvenile owls in a study area in the Cascade Mountains were captured by a noosing pole or by hand after being lured by a live mouse. Each captured owl was banded with a standard band on one leg and a colored band on the other. Observations of banded birds helped document differential habitat use and breeding success.) MKM

Marbled Murrelet group size at sea as an index to productivity. D.E. Mack, M.G. Raphael, F. Cooke and C. Thiessen. 2004. *Northwestern Naturalist* 85:1-10. Idaho Dept. Fish & Game, 555 Deinhard Lane, McCall, ID 83638 (Observations of 75 murrelets radio-tagged in Desolation Sound, BC, were used to assess whether or not group size

on the water during the breeding season reflected breeding status. Observations at sea were combined with knowledge of known breeding status of radio-tagged birds in relation to stage of the nestling cycle. Data supported the prediction that group size, especially the proportion of "single-bird groups," reflected breeding status, although additional samples in more years are needed to define this trend further.) MKM

Winter habitat use by Northern Spotted Owls on Bureau of Land Management lands within the boundary of the Timbered Rock fire. S. Andrews, R. Anthony, T. O'Brien and F. Wagner. 2005. *Northwestern Naturalist* 86:83. Oregon Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit, Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97331 (Data from five owls fitted with radio-tags in Oregon indicated that they used a variety of habitats, including high severity burns and that home ranges appeared larger post-fire than in the same area pre-fire.) MKM

MKM = *Martin K. McNicholl*



Cooper's Hawk by George West