

1980

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Recommended Citation

Buckalew, John M. (1980) "Distribution of Mallards," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 5 : Iss. 3 , Article 7.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol5/iss3/7>

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Distribution of Mallards

John M. Buckalew

This note is presented for the interested banders who have not had the opportunity to follow the migration of waterfowl, in particular the migration of the Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*).

Banding of 1164 Mallards took place at three locations: Fort Frances, Ontario; Big Pisquanish Point, Ontario; and in Seneca County, New York. These birds were captured by baited traps, by nets to take flightless birds, by cannon nets, and by the use of airboats at night. The bandings occurred over a 16-year period (1954-1969).

The map shows the distribution of 189 recoveries (out of 1164 banded), 31 originating from Big Pisquanish Point, 55 from Fort Frances, and

103 from Seneca County. Two birds were recovered as late as 9 years after being banded.

Organizations directly contributing to this work were the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. Two individuals in particular contributed greatly: Alex Hunter (now deceased), an employee of the Ontario Department who accompanied me on my trips to the James Bay country (Big Pisquanish); and Vernon Dewey, an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, stationed at the Montezuma Wildlife Refuge, Seneca Falls, New York. 🍷

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