

1981

Recent Literature

North American Bird Bander

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Banding history

Safring — how it continued. G.R. McLachlan. 1979. *Safring News* 8:42-46. (History of organized banding in southern Africa from 1957, when the South Africa Museum took over issuing bands and coordinating records from Hugh Ashton, until 1966, when McLaughlin left the museum and the scheme moved to the Fitzpatrick Institute. During this museum period, McLaughlin standardized report forms, arranged for amateurs to receive bands free, and explored methods of encouraging banders to submit their schedules! Activity increased annually with 45,000 birds banded in 1965-66.) MM

Bird ringing — the Natal scene. T. Boatley. 1979. *Safring News* 8:47-50. (Brief history of the development of banding efforts in Natal.) MM

Banding equipment and techniques

Patagial tags for Pintails wintering on the southern high plains of Texas. G.A. Baldassare, R.J. Whyte, and E.G. Bolen. 1980. *Inland Bird Banding* 52:13-19. (A method of applying Saflag patagial tags to Pintails is outlined, tag loss and retention data summarized, some winter site fidelity data presented, and use of the tags in determining amount of non-hunting mortality suggested.) MM

An octagonal Bal-chatri trap for small raptors. M.G. Erickson and D.M. Hoppe. 1979. *Raptor Res.* 13:36-38. (Contains an octagonal tunnel in which bait-mice tend to move more than in other Bal-chatri traps — successful in capturing Broad-winged Hawks and American Kestrels.) MM

A modified funnel trap for Snow Buntings. D. Brewer. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Assoc. Newsletter* Jan-Feb 1981:4. (A trap with partitions in the doorways consistently caught 4 to 5 times as many buntings as an adjacent conventional funnel trap, apparently by slowing down the buntings long enough for them to notice food in the trap.) MM

Aging North American kinglets: a new technique. D.M. Fairfield and P.A. Shirokoff. 1978. *Blue Bill* suppl. 25:19-21, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 13(3):28-34, 1980. (Age differences in distance between 9th and 10th primaries and in wing length in European kinglets did not prove helpful in determining age of the two North American species, but shape of rectrices on a 5-point



round-to-very-pointed scale allowed aging of both species with about 80% accuracy, this accuracy better if combined with skulling.) MM

North American banding results

Eastern Bluebird home range determination using radio telemetry. F.F. Sloan and D.J. Carlson. 1980. *Inland Bird Banding* 51:20-22. (Home ranges of 6 radio-tagged territorial male bluebirds ranged from 2.1 to 3.5 acres, mean 2.7 acres. Radios remained on 3 males for 3 weeks, less than 1 week on 1 bird, and less than 2 weeks on 2 birds.) MM

Life history of the Five-striped Sparrow. G.S. Mills, J.R. Silliman, R.D. Groschupf, and S.M. Speich. 1980. *Living Bird* 18:95-110. (This Arizona study is the first detailed life history of this recent addition to the breeding birds of the U.S.A. Banding showed the sparrows to be monogamous and territorial. There was no evidence that pairs remain together in subsequent years, but returns to the same areas in this peripheral population were very variable. One pair in 1975 consisted of siblings fledged in 1974.) MM

Behavior in a non-breeding Bald Eagle. J.M. Gerrard, P.N. Gerrard, and D.W.A. Whitfield. 1980. *Can. Field-Nat.* 94:391-397. (A color-banded four-year-old non-breeding eagle in its first year of adult plumage was watched intensively for a month, and home range, territorial behavior and interactions with other adults documented.) MM

Growth of the Horned Lark at Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories. W.J. Maher. 1980. *Can. Field-Nat.*

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Edited by Martin K. McNicholl



94:405-410. (Detailed measurements of growth of young *Eremophila alpestris hoyti* indicate that young of this race grow more rapidly than young of southern races, but behavioral and plumage development are comparable in all races studies.) MM

The reproductive rates of yearling and older Ipswich Sparrows, *Passerculus sandwichensis princeps*. H.A. Ross. 1980. *Can. J. Zool.* 58:1557-1563. (Observations on color-banded Ipswich Sparrows showed that older females and mates of older males tend to complete their first clutches earlier, have shorter intervals between clutches, and lay larger clutches than yearlings, but that both age groups are equally successful in raising young to 7 days of age.) MM

Bluebird preservation in southwestern Manitoba 1960-1980. N. Lane. 1980. *Sialia* 2:140-141. (The late John Lane banded 10,433 Mountain, 1975 Eastern, and 54 hybrid bluebirds in Man. 1970-74.) MM

Our success story. J. Brinkerhoff and E. Brinkerhoff. 1980. *Sialia* 2:143-145. (Over 1000 female bluebirds [Mountain?] were banded in Wash. Some returned to the same box in 3 successive years.) MM

Annual report to banders — summary of bird banding in Canada in 1978. C. Hyslop and R.M. Poulin. 1980. *Can. Wildl. Serv. Progress Notes* No. 117. (For each province and territory, tables summarize number of banders, number of birds banded, % of game and non-game species among birds banded, numbers of each species banded, and most frequently banded game and non-game species. A table lists species banded in 1978 but not in 1977 and vice versa, and corrections are given to the 1977 report.) MM

Released falcon joins wild tiercel in Quebec. Anonymous. 1980. *Peregrine Fund Newsletter* No. 8:5-6. (A Cornell-raised banded female Peregrine successfully raised 2 young in Quebec.) MM

Banding Snow Buntings near St. Thomas, Ont. M. Field. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Assoc. Newsletter* Jan-Feb 1981:3. (Between 2-12 Jan 1981, 334 Snow Buntings, 44 Horned Larks, and 139 Lapland Longspurs were banded, the longspurs an unexpectedly high number.) MM

Juvenile Eastern Bluebirds participating in nest building. A.J. Brown III. 1981. *Sialia* 3:7. (At least 2 of 4 color-banded juveniles from a first brood assisted their mother in building a nest in an adjacent box without interference from the father.) MM

Coastal Ospreys between New York City and Boston: a decade of reproductive recovery 1969-1979. P. Spitzer and A. Poole. 1980. *Amer. Birds* 34:234-241. (Population and reproductive statistics were obtained to a large extent when banding and compared with similar statistics gathered during the 1940s. Banding verified the relative isolation of this populous population from other populations.) MM

Prince Edward Point Observatory five-year banding summary. H. Quilliam and R. Weir. 1980. *Ont. Bird Banding* 13(2):2-24. (The history and activities of the first 5 years, 1975-1979, of the Prince Edward Point Observatory near Kingston, Ont. are summarized. A table lists all yearly totals for each species banded by the observatory, primarily on the point, but including waterfowl on nearby Amherst Island and some birds in Kingston. Educational and scientific projects are outlined, with specific attention to preliminary findings on studies of Saw-whet Owl migration. Differential seasonal and species behavior in duration of stay on the point is indicated from return and repeat data. Ongoing studies will emphasize migration sampling.) MM

Returns 1976-1979 — some thoughts on birds banded at Prince Edward Point and recaptured one to four years later. F. Cooke. 1980. *Blue Bill* suppl. 27:19-23, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 13(2):25-34, 1980. (Return data as a total of percentage banded for 23 species showed considerable species differences. In general, males and adults showed higher return rates than females and nestlings respectively, and birds banded in the summer were more likely to return than those

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banded during migration. Problems with determining age and sex of Northern Orioles are outlined.) MM

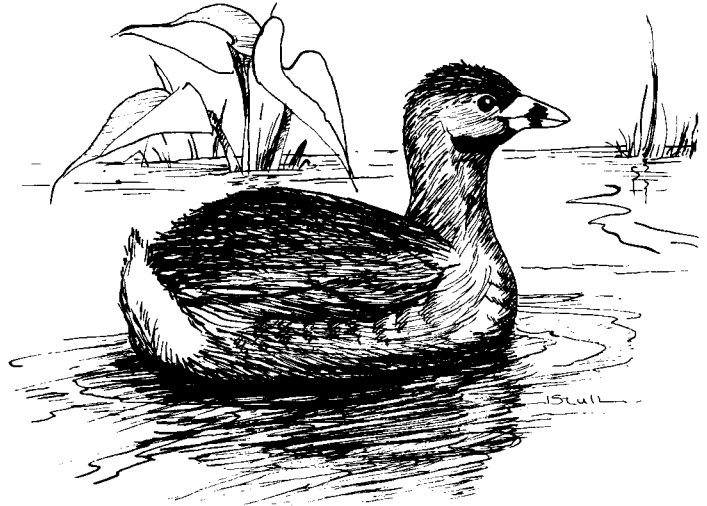
Hawk Cliff raptor banding station ninth annual report: 1979. M. Field and D. Field. 1980. *Ont. Bird Banding* 13(3):2-27. (Summary of the 11th year of this Ont. banding program, with totals for each species banded each year, daily totals of each species seen Aug-Dec 1979, and 1979 totals of banding at each station within the Hawk Cliff area. Data are included on birds banded per hour of effort 1973-1979, 1979 data on an American Kestrel box program, recoveries, and the care of an injured Osprey.) MM

Migratory patterns and winter distribution in the Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*). D. M. Fairfield and P.A. Shirokoff. 1978. *Blue Bill* 25:22-25, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 13(3):35-43, 1980. (Banding data at Prince Edward Point, Ont. show that males arrive before females in spring; females before males in fall.) MM

Song dialects as barriers to dispersal: a re-evaluation. L. Petrinovich, T. Patterson, and L.F. Baptista. 1981. *Evolution* 35:180-188. (Banding data from a population of White-crowned Sparrows indicate considerable movement of first-year birds into the breeding population, that a small proportion of nestlings acquire territories in their natal area, and that some individuals disperse considerable distances across dialect boundaries in apparent contradiction to earlier results of Baker and Mewaldt. Analysis of song-types of banded mated pairs casts some doubt on positive assortive mating by song dialect, and one banded male actually sang a song one year different from the song he sang the year before. In an accompanying reply, *Response to "song dialects as barriers to dispersal: a re-evaluation"* M.C. Baker and L.R. Mewaldt, 1981, *Evolution* 35:189-190, Baker and Mewaldt note several important differences between the two studies, notably study area size, and indicate how their results may well be compatible.) MM

Foreign banding results

Aspects of the biology of the Australasian Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus approximans* Peal 1848). D.J. Baker-Gabb. 1979. *Raptor Res.* 13:30-31. (Abstract of 1978 thesis. Data from 212 banded individuals showed that most adults return after autumn dispersal to establish winter territories, and helped document territory and

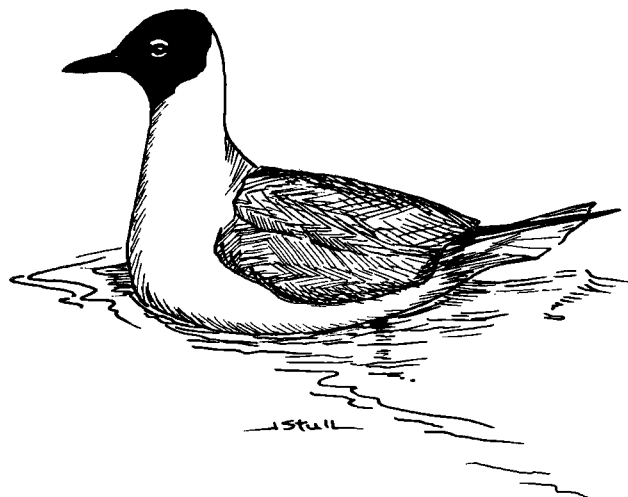


home range sizes, division of labor, seasonal movements, and "dispersion" (sic: dispersal) of each sex and age class from the breeding area.) MM

Distances between birthplace and breeding place in Sparrowhawks and other European raptors. I. Newton. 1979. *Raptor Res.* 13:97-101. (Raptors tend to settle and breed close to their hatch site, with band recoveries falling off exponentially in successive circles away from hatch site. Distance of dispersal varies among species and in different localities and years within species, and in at least European Sparrowhawks and Hobbies varies with sex. Individuals of irruptive populations tend to disperse farther than others.) MM

More on Gannets. D. Brewer. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Assoc. Newsletter* Jan-Feb 1981:5. (3 Gannets banded at Ailsa Craig, Scotland were recovered 14, 15, and 16 years after banding.) MM

Seabird islands. Nos. 80-101. Individually authored by one or more of: D. Barton, G.M. Bowker, N.P. Brothers, R.S. Brown, D.M. Deerson, M.P. Harris, F.I. Norman, T.W. Prescott, B.I. Robertson, and J. Weiner. 1980. *Corolla* 4:65-112. (Continues the series of short accounts, 1-3 pp. each, of seabird islands off the Australian coast, in this issue all but one in the state of Victoria, the other from Tasmania. Each account describes location, political status, landing feasibility, ornithological history, status of breeding seabirds, factors affecting status, other vertebrates present, and banding to date. Species banded on one or more islands covered in this issue are Little Penguin, Fairy Prion, Short-tailed Shearwater,



Common Diving Petrel, White-faced Storm-Petrel, Cape Barren Goose, Pacific Gull, Silver Gull, Crested Tern, and Caspian Tern. Returns and recoveries are reported for Short-tailed Shearwater, White-faced Storm-Petrel, Australasian Gannet, and Silver Gull.) MM

A brief report of ringing at Barberspan including the 1978/79 report. D.M. Skead. 1979. *Safring News* 8:51-56. (Brief summary of activity since 1955, with 134,491 birds of 202 species and 2 hybrids banded by end Dec 1978. The Yellow-billed Duck accounts for 34% of all birds banded, and Red-billed Quelea 16%. Recoveries of the duck were high; those of quelea low.) MM

Bits 'N Pieces (from American Birds)

The winter season. December 1, 1979 — February 29, 1980. K.P. Able and 33 regional editors. 1980. *Amer. Birds* 34:249-310. (Banding continues to help document the expansion of House Finch populations in eastern North America, with large numbers banded during an "explosion" of finches in the Appalachians and 13 banded at Nashville, TN indicative of the population growth in the Central Southern Region. Similarly, banding helps document the winter occurrence of western hummingbirds in the East, with 8 Black-chinned and 9 Rufous banded at New Orleans, LA — thought to be only $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the birds present. As usual, several rarities turned up in banding nets, including a Red/Yellow-shafted Flicker hybrid at Schenectady, NY and a Red-shafted recaptured at Palo Park, IL, where it was banded the previous winter. 42 Great Gray

Owls were banded in Man. during the 3rd consecutive year of high numbers in the province, and no less than 44 woodpeckers of 4 species were banded in one month in a Kansas backyard. The band on the leg of a juvenile Whooping Crane in TX showed it to be from the 1979 cohort. Three White-throated Sparrows banded at Juneau, AK in Dec stayed all winter, but a Varied Thrush banded in Nov in WY was in UT in Feb. A banded Painted Redstart returned to Portal, AZ for its 7th winter.) MM

The nesting season. June 1 — July 31, 1980. W.B. Robertson, Jr. and 35 regional editors. 1980. *Amer. Birds* 34:875-935. (Band recoveries from Mex. suggested the source of DDE afflicting Black-crowned Night Herons in ID. Some sort of record must have been set by the 58 Ospreys banded at Smith Island, MD by 10 a.m. in one day by a party in one boat, and only the Houstons could consider 115 young Great Horned Owls banded in 64 Sask. nests as a poor year! 18 young Barn Owls banded within $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile of a PA school is remarkable, but the backyard at State College, PA in which 554 young House Finches were banded in 2 months must be obscured by wings! Other noteworthy banding totals included 103 young Green Herons in AL, 61 young Bald Eagles in Chesapeake Bay (6 also with radios), 4302 Royal and 22 Sandwich Terns at Freezeout Lake, MT, 17 Least Terns in FL, 140-150 young Barn Owls in a nest box project in UT, 16 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers in one day at Long Point, Ont., 231 Blue Jays at State College, PA (avg. 23/year). As usual, several rarities and seasonal oddities were discovered and/or documented through banding activities, from the Yellow-throated Warbler at Kent Island, New Brunswick to the late-nesting Red-billed Tropicbird in the West Indies.) MM

(Note: Thanks to L.R. Mewaldt for submitting the *Evolution* reprints. Abstractors are welcome for journals not currently reviewed regularly. Journals currently assigned are: *Alta. Nat.*, *Amer. Birds*, *Auk*, *Birding*, *Bird Study*, *Blue Jay*, *Brit. Birds*, *Can. Field-Nat.*, *Can. J. Zool.*, *Colonial Waterbirds*, *Condor*, *Ecology*, *Ibis*, *Inland Bird Banding*, *Jack-Pine Warbler*, *J. Field Ornithol.*, *J. Hawk Migr. Assoc. N. Amer.*, *J. Wildl. Manage.*, *Kingbird*, *Living Bird*, *Loon*, *Murrelet*, *Ont. Bird Banding*, *Ont. Field Biol.*, *Passenger Pigeon*, *Prairie Nat.*, *Raptor Res.*, *Sialia*, *Syesis*, *West. Birds*, and *Wilson Bull.*)

MM = Martin K. McNicholl