

1986

The Banders' Forum

North American Bird Bander

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(Western)



The Banders' Forum

Computerizing Bird Band Schedules

*Robert A. and Patricia V. Melville in their article "Birds is for the computer", NABB, Vol. 10, No. 2 April-June 1985, I have reticence.

Bird banding is expensive enough without spending \$1000 to \$2000 for a computer to fill out banding schedules, when a 50¢ pen can do the same.

Every year I buy bird feed, I attend the banding conference, I drive 5000 to 6000 miles to expedite my bird banding. This by the way costs me around \$900. If a computer could solve the following problems I have and get me more recovered birds I would readily purchase a computer.

1. In 52 years I have banded 83,000 birds, can the computer tell me how many of my bands are still on living birds?
2. How many of my banded bird bands are in a garbage dump? These were due to a finder of a banded bird who had no knowledge of where to report banded birds.
3. How many bands are on watch fobs, or lying in a dresser drawer, that have not been reported?
4. How many bird bands are lying where they are impossible to find?

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