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Recent Literature

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Banding Equipment and Techniques

Need for new direction in research on Black and Turkey Vultures in the U.S.A. P. A. Stewart. 1985 *Vulture News* 13:8-12. -203 Mooreland Dr., Oxford, N.C. 27565 - (Problems that individual marking can pose to vultures are stressed, with a plea for researchers to refrain from using markers unless absolutely necessary for a specific research question. An important correction to a recovery reported in *Condor* 69:146-155, 1967 is also included.) MKM

Durability of incoloy bands on Common Terns. I.C.T. Nisbet and J. J. Hatch. 1988. *Colonial Waterbirds* 11:113-114. -72 Codman Rd., Lincoln, Mass. 01773 - (Average rate of weight loss from incoloy bands recovered 7 to 11 years after banding was 0.25% per year, about one-twentieth that of size 3 aluminum bands and about one-sixteenth that of size 2 aluminum bands. Inscriptions were in all cases as legible as those of unworn bands.) MKM

Identification, Molts, Plumages, Weights and Measurements

Sexing adult King Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax albiventer*) by discriminant analysis. V. E. Malacalaza and M. E. Hall. 1988. *Colonial Waterbirds* 11:32-37. -Centro Nacional Patagonico, 28 de Julio No. 28 (9120), Puerto Madryn, Chubut, Argentina - (Males averaged larger than females in all of 11 measurements from 84 specimens. A formula based on bill depth, culmen and body weight correctly classified 95.1% of the birds, while total length in combination with bill depth classified 96.5% correctly.) MKM

Measurements and seasonal changes in weight of Guillemots *Uria aalge* at a breeding colony. M. P. Harris and S. Wanless. 1988. *Ring. & Migr.* 9:32-36. -Inst. Terrestrial Ecol., Hill of Brathens, Banchory, Kincardineshire AB3 4BY, U. K. - (Birds were lightest when feeding young.) RCT

Age and sex-related differences in biometrics and moult of Kittiwakes. R. D. Smith. 1988. *Ring. & Migr.* 9:44-48. -36 Dubford Cresc., Aberdeen, U.K. - (Second summer *Rissa tridactyla* showed no differences from adults in biometrics.) RCT

Post-mortem shrinkage of wing and bill of Puffins. M. P. Harris. 1980. *Ring. & Migr.* 3:60-61. (Variable shrinkages in *Fratercula arctica* occur in the first 2 months after death, with no later changes. Large samples are

needed to obtain reliable correction factors for comparison between live birds and museum specimens.) RCT

North American Banding Results

Midwest. C. Henderson. 1988. *Eyas* 11(1):8-10. -Box 7, Minn. Dept. Nat. Resources, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55146 - (Numbers read on bands of immature Peregrine Falcons wintering in Kansas City, MO showed that one had been banded as a wild nestling in Yukon Territory, while another was from a hack site in MN.) MKM

Northeast. J. Brett. 1988. *Eyas* 11(1):11-14. -Hawk Mtn. Sanct. Assoc., R.D. 2, Kempton, PA 19529 - (Three marked Bald Eagles observed in N.H. in winter had all returned to areas where they had been sighted previously. One was a bird banded in MA in 1983, one winter-captured in N.Y. in 1984, and one rehabilitated in MA in 1984.) MKM

Comparison of nesting biology of Fork-tailed and Leach's Storm-Petrels. K. Vermeer, K. Devito and L. Rankin. 1988. *Colonial Waterbirds* 11:46-57. -Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 340, Delta, B.C. V4K 3Y3 - (Includes growth data from colonies in the Queen Charlotte Is. Tarsus length and development of primaries help age chicks, but weights do not, partly because chicks lose considerable weight during storms. Fork-tailed chicks are heavier than Leach's of the same age, but Leach's chicks are heavier in proportion to adult weight than are Fork-tailed chicks.) MKM

Canadian nesting box report 1987. Anonymous. 1988. *Sialia* 10:95-96. (838 Mountain Bluebirds and 922 Tree Swallows were banded in the Calgary, Alta. area, with a bluebird recovery from New Mex. and the return of a six-year old Tree Swallow. In the Lethbridge, Alta. area one pair of Mountain Bluebirds used the same nest box for the fifth consecutive year and there were 71 recoveries, although the report does not state whether these were of bluebirds only or also included swallows. A 1986 nestling bluebird from there was found in Jan. 1987 in Tex.) MKM

British Columbia wildlife. Spring report 1988. R. W. Campbell. 1988. *B. C. Nat.* 26(2):6-7. -Royal B. C. Mus., Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4 - (Recent band recoveries in B.C. include Barn Swallow and Purple Finch banded in Wash. and Evening Grosbeak banded in Oregon.) MKM

Sandpiper and heron studies on the British Columbia coast. R. Butler. 1988. *B. C. Nat.* 26(2):9. -Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 430, Delta, B.C. V4K 3Y3 - (Color banding has shown that Western Sandpipers at Sidney Is., B.C. linger

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only two or three days before moving farther south, indicating that many more birds use the area than would be apparent without banding.) MKM

Wader migration systems in the New World. R. I. G. Morrison and J. P. Myers. 1987. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49, suppl.: 57-69. -Can. Wildl. Serv., 1725 Woodward Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0E7. -(Summary of current knowledge of north and south migration pathways of New World shorebirds, much of which has been gained in the last 10-15 years through concerted banding studies by the Can. Wildl. Serv., Manomet Bird Observ. and others. Gaps in knowledge are also highlighted.) MKM

The spring migration system of Nearctic Knots *Calidris canutus islandica*: a reappraisal. J. D. Uttley, C. J. Thomas, N. C. Davidson, K.-B. Strann and P. R. Evans. 1987. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49, suppl.:80-84. -Dept. Zool., Univ. Durham, South Rd., Durham DH1 3LE, U.K. -(Recent banding studies of Red Knots wintering in northern Norway show that these are Nearctic birds, probably from Ellesmere Is. and Greenland. One bird color-marked in Norway was seen in western Iceland only two weeks later, and a bird banded in Norway was shot in western Greenland. Several birds banded while wintering in Great Britain and West Germany have been found in Norway during migration.) MKM

Banding in Ontario: 1986; Commentary on 1986 banding report. D. Shepherd. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 19:4-13. -Long Point Bird Observ., Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0 -(47,199 birds of 198 species and 3 hybrids were reported as banded in Ont. by 14 individual banders, 5 private banding groups and 4 government branches in 1986, a marked drop from 1985 totals. This drop reflected the loss of one of Long Point Bird Observatory's field stations and reduced personnel in the Ottawa Banding Group, but also sharp drops in numbers of many species banded by other banders or groups.) MKM

Long Point Bird Observatory: 1986 report. G. E. Wallace. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 19:14-18. -Long Point Bird Observ., Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0 -(The 13,856 birds of 137 species banded was sharply down from 1985, but almost exactly average over the 26 years of banding at LPBO. Recent recoveries include Blue-winged Teal in the Dominican Republic and Venezuela, a Gray Catbird in Guatemala, a Magnolia Warbler in Honduras and numerous birds in Ont., Que. and 7 U.S. states. A 7-year, 3 month-old Eastern Kingbird was the most significant of four longevity records listed.) MKM

Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station sixteenth annual report: 1986. B. W. Duncan, D. Fowler and S. Fowler. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 19:20-25. -10 Chateau Court, Hamilton, Ont. L9C 5P2 -(In 1986, 2,365 birds of 11 raptor species plus one Northern Shrike were banded in 943.5 hours of coverage, with a record Merlin catch of 16 and high numbers of Cooper's Hawks and Northern Harriers banded. Each species is compared with its 1973-1985 average, and bandings are charted by month. Species accounts and other tables include numbers sighted as well as those banded.) MKM

Ottawa Banding Group: 1986 report. J. Dean. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 19:26-29. -73 Irving Pl., Ottawa, Ont. K1Y 2A2 -(The fifth year of banding at Innis Point was low due to lack of funds. The 117 birds of 30 species that returned from previous years are analyzed by percentage of the given species banded, age and sex. Tables also document winter movements in the Ottawa area and foreign recoveries. One Song Sparrow banded in 1982 has returned annually since, while an Eastern Wood-Pewee captured the same year has been missed only in 1984. Recoveries include a Mourning Warbler in Costa Rica, a Northern (Baltimore) Oriole in Guatemala, and several others in two provinces and 10 U.S. states.) MKM

Merlins banded at Hawk Cliff, Ontario: 1972-1986. B. W. Duncan, G. Melvin, and C. Sanderson. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 17:30-32. -10 Chateau Court, Hamilton, Ont. L9C 5P2 -(Of 84 Merlins banded during fall migration, 86.9% have been HY birds and 61.9% have been females. Average catch rate from 1973 to 1986 was 6.53 Merlins per 1000 net hours or 5.6 Merlins per year, but with considerable increases in 1985 and 1986. Three have been recovered to date - in Louisiana, Honduras and Minnesota.) MKM

Northern Saw-whet Owl studies at Prince Edward Point in 1986. R. D. Weir. 1987. *Ont. Bird Banding* 1:33. -294 Elmwood St., Kingston, Ont. K7M 2Y8 -(During the twelfth year of fall owl banding at Prince Edward Point, Ont., 421 Northern Saw-whet Owls brought the cumulative total to 4,349, with a one-night record of 181 banded. That same record night also produced 2 Long-eared Owls and 50 previously-banded Saw-whets. AHY birds constituted 56.5% of the total caught in 1986.) MKM

Observations from a "bluebird field" in western Oregon. R. L. Altman and E. K. Eltzroth. 1987. *Sialia* 9:133, 136. -Route 1, Box 1718, Benton City, WA 99320 -(The nesting history to date of a particularly aggressive male Western Bluebird is documented from initial color-banding as a nestling in 1983 through the 1986 breeding season.) MKM

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Foreign Banding Results

Ringling and recovery details of four southern African swallow species. R. Earle. 1987. *Safring News* 16:67-72. -Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein, 9300, South Africa. -(Of 8954 swallows of 4 *Hirundo* species, 128 were recovered or recaptured. Recovery rates were low, all under 1%, with the Greater Striped Swallow showing both the highest recovery rate of 0.95% and the largest distance moved of 3156 km, to the north in Zaire. On the other hand, some birds were recaptured at or close to their original banding site annually, showing them to be suitable for long-term life history studies. One Whitethroated Swallow was recaptured 9 times at the same nest site between 1958 and 1968.) MKM

Getting older in Malawi. D. B. Hanmer. 1987. *Safring News* 16:73-78. -Sucoma, Private Bag 50, Blantyre-Malawi. -(Longevity data on 85 birds of 34 species known to have reached 8 or more years by July 1987. The only bird of a species also found in North America was a male House Sparrow 8 or more years old.) MKM

Blue over green, yellow over metal is alive and well and ten. S. E. Piper. 1987. *Safring News* 16:79-81. -Surveying and Mapping Dept., Univ. Natal, King George V Ave., Durban 4001, South Africa. -(Longevity record for Long-tailed Wagtail, with details of territorial shifts through its life to date.) MKM

Recovery of ring-maimed White Stork. J. J. Herholdt. 1987. *Safring News* 16:82. -Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa. -(Improperly closed band resulted in injuries that apparently caused or contributed to death of stork.) MKM

Wader migration systems in east Asia and Australia. D. Parish, B. Lane, P. Sagar and P. Tomkovitch. 1987. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49, suppl.:4-14. -Interwader, East Asia/Pacific Shorebird Study Programme, P.O. Box 10769, 50724 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. -(Detailed summary of known migration routes and concentrations of shorebirds in this vast area, as determined through various census techniques and banding studies. Much of the history of the studies is also a history of banding efforts in the countries involved, with WBBA's former president, H. Elliott

McClure, pioneering the first major banding study in the region. Age ratio data obtained while banding helps monitor population trends. Banding also figures strongly in plans to close the many remaining gaps in knowledge of shorebird use of the region.) MKM

Loon conservation in the British Isles. L. Campbell. 1988. pp. 78-85 in P. I. V. Strong (Ed.). *Papers from the 1987 Conference on Common Loon Research and Management*. North Amer. Loon Fund, Meredith, N.H. -Royal Soc. for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, Great Britain SG19 2DL -(The Shetland Ringing Group banded 577 chick and 73 adult Red-throated Loons from 1979 to 1986.) MKM

Wader migration systems in southern and eastern Africa and western Asia. R. W. Summers, L. G. Underhill, D. J. Pearson and D. A. Scott. 1987. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49, suppl.:15-34. -Leenane, Gong Lane, Burnham Over Straithe, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, U.K. -(Detailed review of status, population sizes and migration routes of shorebirds breeding, migrating and/or wintering in the general area of the Black and Caspian Seas south through the Middle East to southern Africa. Banding, especially color banding, has contributed substantially to knowledge to date.) MKM

Wintering Black-winged Stilts in the Mahgreb region. R. Tinarelli. 1987. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 50:30-34. -(Winter site tenacity is indicated by the sighting of 7 color-banded stilts at the same Morocco site at which they had been banded in previous years.) MKM

Why share a mate? J. Faaborg. 1983. *Living Bird Quart.* 2(2):14-17. (Color-banding showed that polyandrous groups of male Galapagos Hawks stay on territory year after year and that once a group is established, no new males are added, even after the death of one or more of the group. Although polyandrous males father fewer young in a given year than monogamous males, males in groups survive longer than solitary males, thus producing more young in a life time.) MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl
RCT = Robert C. Tweit