

1998

## News, Notes, Comments

North American Bird Bander

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# News, Notes, Comments

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## Reminder

### **"Suggestions to Manuscript Authors" to be implemented effective with NABB 24(1).**

NABB is a peer-reviewed, quarterly publication of the Eastern, Inland, and Western Bird Banding Associations and is abstracted by Biological Abstracts. No page charges are assessed. This journal welcomes papers, not previously published, on research on marked birds, molts, plumages, and morphometrics and capture techniques. The following is a condensed version of instructions for **major manuscripts only; other sections of the journal follow a less formal style (see recent issues)**. Please see the more detailed instructions as published in the "News, Notes, Comments" section of NABB 23(3). The instructions will appear on the inside front cover of each issue starting with NABB 24(1).

Please submit two copies of your manuscript, double-spaced, on 21.5x28 cm (8-1/2 x 11") paper with 2.5 cm (1") margins, to the editor for the banding association covering your area. All manuscripts should be organized into the following sections: **Abstract** (emphasize results, list species studied), **Introduction** (define problem, summarize appropriate literature), **Methods**, **Results**, **Discussion**, **Acknowledgments**, and **Literature Cited**.

Use metric units for all measurements. Give time based on the 24-hour clock, as 0830 and use continental dating, e.g., 25 Nov 1988. Use Arabic numerals for numbers. When using statistics, cite a reference for the methods. Plumage nomenclature should follow Humphrey and Parkes (1959). An approach to the study of molts and plumages. *Auk* 76:1-31.

In the "Literature Cited" section, arrange references in alphabetical order with several papers by the same author(s) arranged chronologically, using the following format: Jones, A.B., C.D. Smith, and E.F. Johnson. 1987. Capturing California Condors. *N. Am. Bird Bander* 11:21-25.

When using information on birds banded by others, consult "Policy on Release of Banding and/or Recovery Data" in the North American Bird

Banding Manual, Vol. 1.

Submit tables and figures on separate sheets, one per page. Submit photographs as glossy prints (return cannot be guaranteed). Slides are not acceptable. All photos will appear in black and white. Send originals of photographs and figures with the final, revised manuscript. For the final submission, include a computer-generated copy of the manuscript and any tables on diskette (if possible), plus a printed copy. Use Word or WordPerfect to prepare your final manuscript, using tabs and default settings only.

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## **First Recorded Sighting and Banding of Anna's Hummingbird in New York State**

On 22 November 1998, I banded an adult male Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) in Binghamton, Broome Co., New York, at the home of Don and Bernice Greenmum.

I contacted J. Lowe, secretary of New York State Avian Records Committee, via e-mail, as to any other occurrences of Anna's in New York State. He indicated that there were no prior records in the state. This record represents the first New York State record and could represent the first Northeast record.

The Anna's Hummingbird was present at the Greenmums' feeder in late October 1998 into the month of November when Bernice Greenmum called a local bander and birder, Ms. Harriet Marsi. On 17 November, Ms. Marsi observed the bird but was unable to identify it due to overcast skies and infrequent visits of the bird to the feeder. However, she was convinced that it was not a Ruby-throated (*Archilochus colubris*), which had long since migrated from the area. She called Marie Petuh, another local birder, who contacted three more birders (Christine Barnes, Sadie Dorber, and Bob Grosek). This group identified the bird as a probable male Anna's Hummingbird. On 19 November, I observed the Anna's with a group of five or six other birders and asked permission of the Greenmums to band the bird. Permission was granted and it was decided that the bird would be banded on Sunday, 22 November.

At this time, there was some discussion concerning the bird's ability to survive an Upstate New York winter, and Arnette Heidcamp, wildlife rehabilitator, was contacted to see if she would be willing to harbor the bird for the winter.

On 22 November 1998, I arrived at the Greenmums, as did Arnette Heidcamp. Just prior to making an attempt to band the bird, I received a phone call from a Mr. Richard Guthrie of the Hudson Mohawk Bird Club, who had contacted the NYS DEC. He explained that the appropriate permit was not in place for transporting and harboring the bird. I then used Ms. Heidcamp's capture device to capture, band, and release the bird. The time it took to capture the bird was less than 15 minutes.

I used Peter Pyle's *Identification Guide to North American Birds* (1997) and *The Hummingbirds of North America, second edition* (1997) by Paul A. Johnsgard as references to age and sex and to compare plumage characteristics. The following measurements were taken and compared:

weight: 5.8 g (Johnsgard: males - 3.3-5.8; Pyle: no weights given)

wing chord: 49.2 mm (stopped and unflattened)  
(Johnsgard: males- 48.5-51.0; Pyle: males- 46.2-51.3)

tail length: 23.05 mm\* (Johnsgard: none given;  
Pyle: males - 29.1-33.9)

exposed culmen: 17.1 mm (Johnsgard: males - 17.5-20.0; Pyle: males - 15.3-19.5)

width of rectrix #5: 5.0 mm (Johnsgard: none given; Pyle: HY/SY males - 5.2-6.2)

\*Tail length does not compare favorably with Pyle; tail was rather worn and rectrices rounded. Possible poor measurement. The tail pattern compares favorably for a male with Pyle's illustration on page 137, fig. 102 (1997) as an AHY/ASY male since there was no white in the outer tail rectrices as in the female, and with Johnsgard's illustration #25G, page 243 in the Appendix (1997).

In addition, this hummingbird had a full rose/magenta crown (pileum) which measured width 11.0 mm and length 18.1 mm. The full iridescent crown compared well with Pyle's illustration on page 141, fig. 104 (1997) as an AHY male Anna's Hummingbird. The gorget extended well down the throat and compares with Johnsgard's illustration K, page 241 in the Appendix (1997) and with Pyle's illustration H,

page 135 (1997). While iridescent the gorget appeared rose/magenta. When not iridescent, the crown (pileum and gorget) appeared very dark gray. The back plumage appeared as iridescent green with orange-yellow flecks. Also, the bird had a very prominent white spot just behind the eye.

Twelve slides were taken with ASA 100 film at f-11/125, using a Canon 35mm with a ring light. Subsequently, three 8-1/2X10 enlargements were made.

After banding the Binghamton Anna's, I contacted Bob Sargent of the Hummer/Bird Study Group, Inc. in Clay Alabama, via e-mail and found that he had banded two Anna's one in November and another in December 1998-one in Smyrna, Georgia, and one in Charlotte, North Carolina. For prior sightings and bandings of Anna's, see Hill et al. (1998).

The bird continued to frequent the feeder until 10 December 1998. Arnette Heidcamp obtained the necessary state DEC permit and recaptured the Anna's and is currently harboring the bird.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Greenmum for permission to band this bird, Jim Lowe (NYSARC) for confirmation of this record, Arnette Heidcamp for the use of her capture device, Jeannette Baldwin of the Tioga Bird Club for making me aware of the bird's presence, and Harriet Marsi and Marie Petuh for details about the first sighting of this bird.

## LITERATURE CITED

- Hill, G.E., Sargent, R.R., and Sargent, M.B. 1998. Recent changes in the winter distribution of Rufous Hummingbirds. *Auk* 115 : 240 -245.
- Johnsgard, P.A. 1997. *The hummingbirds of North America, second edition*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C.
- Pyle, P. 1997. *Identification guide to North American birds*. Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, CA 94924.

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Candor, NY 13743

**MANY FIELD BIOLOGIST INTERNS** (52) are needed to operate constant-effort mist-netting and banding (MAPS) stations in Montana, Washington, Oregon, California, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia, and North Carolina. Internships begin **21 April, 23 April, or 1 May** (depending upon location) and end **8 August**. Applicants should have substantial birding experience; internships include an intensive, two-week training course in the above-mentioned monitoring techniques. Applicants with good field vehicles are especially needed. A per-diem reimbursement, ranging from approximately \$438 to \$617 per month (depending on location), and housing provided. Send resumé and cover letter addressing the knowledge skills, and abilities indicated, as well as the names, addresses, and phone numbers of two references to Eric Feuss, The Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956; Fax (415)663-9482; Phone(415)663-1436 or e-mail-efeuss@birdpop.org for further information.

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**Experienced FIELD BIOLOGIST** needed **25 April** through **10 September** to train and supervise a crew of 12 field biologist interns who will mist-net birds, conduct point counts, and sample vegetation at sites throughout the southern Sierra Nevada mountains in California, including Yosemite, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon National Parks. Position requires supervisory experience, extensive experience mist-netting birds and sampling vegetation, very solid ability to identify Sierra landbirds by sight and sound, excellent physical condition, and willingness to backpack to remote sites and camp out frequently. \$2,000 per month plus shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement. Send CV and names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to Rodey B. Siegel, Research Scientist, The Institute for Bird Populations, P. O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-2051 or e-mail-rsiegel@birdpop.org for more information.

**Twelve FIELD BIOLOGIST INTERNS** needed **1 May through 31 August** to mist-net birds, conduct point counts, and sample vegetation at sites throughout the national forests and national parks of the southern Sierra Nevada mountains in California. Must have extensive birding experience and be familiar with, or able to learn quickly, the songs and calls of western montane landbirds. Position requires excellent physical condition and willingness to backpack to remote sites and camp out frequently. Shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement provided along with a \$20 per diem for food and living expenses (amounts to about \$500 per month). Send resumé and names, addresses and phone numbers of two references to Eric Feuss, Biologist, The Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-1436 or e-mail-efeuss@birdpop.org for more information.

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**FIELD BIOLOGIST INTERNS** needed **1 March through 30 June** (4 interns) and **1 July through 31 October** (2 interns) for landbird monitoring on the US Navy's Guantanamo Bay Naval Station on Cuba. Interns must have mist-netting skills and point count experience. Two of the four interns (March 1 through June 30) need only have nest-finding and nest-monitoring experience. Interns will be provided a \$25 per diem (about \$600/mo) as well as travel costs to the base; on-base housing provided. To apply, submit a resumé and cover letter addressing the knowledge, skills and abilities indicated as well as two references with current phone numbers and addresses to Eric Feuss, Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone(415)663-1436; e-mail-efeuss@birdpop.org for more information.

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**Experienced FIELD BIOLOGIST** needed **25 April through 10 August** to train and supervise a crew of 5 field biologist interns who will locate and monitor nests, conduct point counts, and sample vegetation (following BBIRD protocol) on private timberlands in the Sierra Nevada mountains of north-

ern California. Extensive nest-monitoring, vegetation sampling, and supervisory experience required. Must be very familiar with songs, calls, and nesting habits of western montane landbirds. \$2,000 per month plus shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement. Send CV and names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to Rodney B. Siegel, Research Scientist, The Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-205 or e-mail rsiegel@birdpop.org for more information.

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**Five FIELD BIOLOGIST** needed **1 May through 31 July** to locate and monitor nests, conduct point counts, and sample vegetation (following BBIRD protocol) on private timberlands in the Sierra Nevada mountains of northern California. Must have extensive birding experience and be familiar with, or able to learn quickly the songs, calls and nesting habits of western montane landbirds. Shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement provided along with a \$20 per diem for food and living expenses (amounts to about \$500 per month). Send resume and names, addresses and phone numbers of two references to Eric Feuss, Biologist, The Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-1436 or e-mail efeuss@birdpop.org for more information.

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**Experienced FIELD BIOLOGIST** needed **25 April through 10 August** to train and supervise a crew of 7 field biologist interns who will census birds (point counts) and ground-truth GIS habitat data in Yosemite National Park. Position requires supervisory experience, extensive experience conducting point counts and sampling vegetation, very solid ability to identify Sierra landbirds by sight and sound, excellent physical condition, knowledge of Sierra flora, and willingness to backpack to remote sites and camp out frequently. \$2,000 per month plus shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement. Send CV and names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to Rodney B. Siegel, Research Scientist, The

Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346.  
Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-2051 or e-mail rsiegel@birdpop.org for more information.

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**Seven FIELD BIOLOGIST INTERNS** needed **1 May through 31 July** to census birds (point counts) and ground-truth GIS habitat data in Yosemite National Park. Must have extensive birding experience and be familiar with, or able to learn quickly, the songs and calls of western montane landbirds. Knowledge of Sierra flora also desired. Position requires excellent physical condition and willingness to backpack to remote sites and camp out frequently. Shared housing and on-the-job mileage reimbursement provided along with a \$20 per diem for food and living expenses (amounts to about \$500 per month). Send resumé and names, addresses and phone numbers of two references to Eric Feuss, Biologist, The Institute for Bird Populations, P.O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346; Fax (415) 663-9482; Phone (415) 663-1436 or email efeuss@birdpop.org for more information.

