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Recent Literature

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Kenneth M. Burton
P.O. Box 716
Inverness, CA 94937
kmburton@svn.net

Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

J. O. L. Roberts, 1925-1999. A. D. Brewer. 2001. *Ont. Bird Banding* 32:31. R. R. #1, Puslinch, Ont. N0B 2J0 (Brief biography of one of founding directors of the Long Point Bird Observatory, prominent in the activities of the Ontario Bird Banding Association, Point Pelee Bird Observatory and Whitefish Point Bird Observatory. His publications were on the activities, function and history of observatories, age-related eye color in Sharp-shinned Hawks, and migration of owls and warblers.) MKM

Rural banders in the Saskatoon area. C. S. Houston and M. I. Houston. 2002. *Blue Jay* 60:35-37. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0J8 (Brief biographies, banding efforts and significant recoveries of John Dick, Jr., Henry D. Goossen, Abram S. Loewen, and Philip Siemens, all of whom banded in rural areas near Saskatoon in one or more year(s) between 1928 and 1938. Also included are highlights and recoveries of a crow "control" program in which American Crows and three Black-billed Magpies were banded and released in the Saskatoon area from 1936 to 1938 by Fred G. Bard, Jr.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Recapture rates and breeding frequencies of American Goldfinches wearing different colored leg bands. D. J. Watt. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 71:236-243. Dept. Biol., St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN 46556 (Birds with colored bands did not differ in return rate of breeding frequency from expected values.) RCT

Setting harness sizes and other marker techniques for a falcon with strong sexual dimorphism. K. E. Kenward, R. H. Pfeffer, M. A. Al-Bowardi, N. C. Fox, K. E. Riddle, E. A. Bragin, A. Levin, S. S. Walls, and K. H. Hodder. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:244-257. Centre Ecol. & Hydrol., Winfrith Tech. Cent., Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8ZD, U.K. (Age-predictive equations and attachments are described.) RCT

Effect of investigator disturbance on the breeding success of the Black-legged Kittiwake. H. Sandvik and R. T. Barrett. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:30-42. Dept. Biol., Univ. Tromso, N-9037 Tromso, Norway (Some small adverse effects were seen in the first year, but these decreased in the second year.) RCT

A targeted mist net capture technique for the Willow Flycatcher. M. K. Sogge, J. C. Owen, E. H. Paxton, S. M. Langridge, and M. T. Koronkiewicz. 2001. *West. Birds* 32:167-172. U.S. Geol. Surv., Colorado Plateau Field Stn., Box 5614, Flagstaff, AZ 85011 (Willow Flycatchers at breeding sites were lured into mist nets with tape recorded calls of conspecifics.) RCT

Effects of color bands on Semipalmated Sandpipers banded at hatch. J. Bart, D. Battaglia, and N. Senner. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:521-526. Snake River Field Stn., U.S.G.S., 970 Lusk St., Boise, ID 83706 (Effect, if any, on survivorship of chicks was less than 13% and on mass gain was less than 10%.) RCT

Timing and success of breeding in subtropical Masked Lapwings. M. A. Giese and D. N. Jones. 1996. *Corella* 20:69-74. Jones: Fac. Environ. Sci., Griffith Univ., Nathan, Queensland 4111, Australia (After four birds were trapped on their nests and color-banded, banding efforts were halted because nest failures were attributed to trapping.) MKM

Refinements to selective trapping techniques: a radio-controlled bow net and power snare for Bald and Golden eagles. R. E. Jackman, W. G. Hunt, D. E. Driscoll, and F. J. Lapsanky. 1994. *J. Raptor Res.* 28:268-273. BioSystems Analysis, Inc., Suite 29-203, 303 Potrero St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (Detailed, illustrated description of equipment, including table of principal items needed [number, dimensions and material] for net, trigger, and power snare. The radio-controlled bow net successfully captured Bald Eagles in 16 of 19 attempts and Golden Eagles in 26 of 30 attempts. The radio-controlled power snare was effective in five of seven times that Bald Eagles came to bait. Reasons for failed attempts are discussed, as are advantages and disadvantages of this system in comparison with other techniques.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS, AND MEASUREMENTS

Molt and plumages of Ontario's Heermann's Gull. J. Iron and R. Pittaway. 2001. *Ont. Birds* 19:65-78. 9 Lichen Pl., Toronto, Ont. M3A 1X3 (Detailed 9-month study of molts and plumages, illustrated with color photographs, of extralimital second-year gull, with detailed accounts of each plumage and corresponding molt during this period and summary charts by month of Prealternate I and Prebasic II molts.) MKM

An adult male Blackpoll Warbler in female-like plumage. C. C. Rimmer and J. R. Tietz. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:365-368. Vermont Inst. Nat. Sci., 2702 Church Hill Rd., Woodstock, VT 05091 (Bird was singing territorially, had a cloacal protuberance and had been banded in male plumage the previous year.) RCT

Age and sex determination of the Maui Parrotbill. K. F. Berlin, J. C. Simon, T. K. Pratt, P. E. Baker, and J. R. Kowalsky. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:12-21. U.S.G.S. Pacific Isl. Ecosys. Res. Cent., Box 44, Hawaii Natl. Park, Hawaii 96718 (A combination of plumage characteristics and wing chord was used.) RCT

Molt during spring migration: a comparison of four species of raptors. E. Gorney and Y. Yom Tov. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:96-105. Dept. Zool., Tel Aviv Univ., Tel Aviv 69978, Israel (Some immatures were molting remiges when captured during spring migration: about 10% in two of four species examined.) RCT

Population characteristics of Common Murres and Rhinoceros Auklets entangled in gillnets in Puget Sound, Washington, from 1993 to 1994. C. W. Thompson, M. L. Wilson, D. J. Pierce, and D. DeGhetto. 1998. *Northwest. Nat.* 79:77-91. Wash. Dept. Fish & Wildl., 16018 Mill Creek Blvd., Mill Creek, WA 98012 (Includes data on molt status of both species.) MKM

Body mass of female Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) during courtship: relationships to male quality, egg mass, diet, laying date and age. H. Wendeln. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:235-243. Institut für Vogelforschung "Vogelwarte Helgoland," An der Vogelwarte 21, D-26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany (Body masses of color-banded birds were obtained from automatic electrical balances placed on selected nest-sites at a colony on a brackish lake on the Wadden Sea coast. Early-laying females had higher masses than later layers, early laying was associated with older males and females and high reproductive success was related to both early laying and high egg mass.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Purple Martins attracted to Grasswood. G. J. Parent. 2001. *Blue Jay* 59:195-199. R.R. #5, Station Main, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3J8 (After martins started to nest in gourds installed near Saskatoon in 2000, Mary Houston banded 75 nestlings there in 2001.) MKM

Evaluation of relocation of Red-tailed Hawks from L. B. P. International Airports 1984-1998. M. Werriaart and T. Groh. 2001. *Ont. Bird Banding* 32:26-30. R.R. 2, Campbellville, Ont. L0P 1B0 (Of 1416 Red-tailed Hawks banded within Toronto, Ontario's international airport 1984-1998 and relocated elsewhere in southern Ontario, 59 [4%] were trapped a second time and 8 [<1%] a third time. Tables document numbers encountered by encounter category and numbers and percent trapped by age category, and graphs chart numbers banded by month and numbers trapped by age category.) MKM

Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 2000. K. J. Roy. 2001. *Ont. Birds* 19:45-64. 13 Kinsman Court, Fonthill, Ont. L0S 1E3 (Unlike most years, banding figures in none of reported documentations of rarities, but reports of three Black-billed Magpies are rejected on the grounds of questionable origin since colored leg bands were seen on a few other magpies elsewhere in Ontario "during the same years.") MKM

Survival of juvenile Greater Snow Geese immediately after banding. S. Menu, G. Gauthier, and A. Reed. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:282-290. Dept. de Biol. & Cent. d'Etudes Nordiques, Univ. Laval, Sainte-Foy, Que. G1K 7P4 (Mortality rate of adults is tiny; rates for juveniles older than 34 days, larger than 1400 g., and captured with fewer than 600 geese are also very low.) RCT

Recovery from the northeastern Gulf of Mexico of a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel banded in the Azores. G. E. Woolfenden, L. R. Monteiro, and R. A. Duncan. 2001. *J. Field Ornithol.* 72:62-65. Archbold Biol. Station, Lake Placid, FL 33862 (The individual was a representative of the cool season breeding population, one of two genetically distinct breeding populations of this species on the Azores.) RCT

Locality reports 48. Bylot Island, Nunavut, Canada (73° 21' N, 84° 34' W). G. Gauthier. 2001. *Arctic Birds* 3:15. Dept. Biol., Univ. Laval, Ste.-Foy, Que. G1K 7P4 (Brood survival of Greater Snow Geese in 2000 was considered good on the basis of brood size combined with young/adult ratio at banding, with 78% of adults estimated to be accompanied by young.) MKM

The 12 hours of raptor migration. L. Takats and C. Rice. 1998. *Edmonton Nat.* 26(1):11-14. c/o Edmonton Nat. Hist. Club, Box 1582, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 2N9 (Account of Edmonton area field trip, including capture of female Rough-legged Hawk on a Bal Chatri trap.) MKM

Dispersal of Bald Eagles fledged in Texas. D. W. Mabie, M. T. Merendino, and D. H. Reid. 1994. *J. Raptor Res.* 28:213-219. Texas Parks & Wildl. Dept., 715 S. Highway 35, Rockport 35, Rockport, TX 78382 (Survival to fledging of 138 nestling Bald Eagles color-banded in Texas during 1985-1991 was 97%. Between 1985 and 1993, three of these

color-banded eagles were recovered in Louisiana and Texas and 61 sightings were verified, primarily between the Rocky Mountains and Mississippi Valley from Texas to Canada. Two were sighted along the Atlantic coast [New York and South Carolina] and two west of the Rocky Mountains [Arizona and Sonora]. Forty-six of the color-banded birds are known to have reached breeding age, with nine confirmed as nesting in Texas, one in Arizona, and one in Mexico. Plastic color bands used from 1985 to 1989 showed high loss rates [94%], resulting in a switch to anodized aluminum bands in 1990 and 1991. Patagial markers were also used.) MKM

Ectoparasites of the Spotted Owl. J. E. Hunter, R. J. Gutierrez, and A. B. Franklin. 1994. *J. Raptor Res.* 28:232-235. Dept. Wildl., Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA 95521 (Seven ectoparasite species from five arthropod orders were collected from three races of Spotted Owls. Some were obtained from museum specimens, but most were collected during banding of about 1,000 Spotted Owls in Arizona and California 1987-1993 and 18 Spotted Owls in Mexico.) MKM

Dispersal and mortality of juvenile American Black Ducks, *Anas rubripes*, on wetlands under different management strategies. G. R. Parker. 1998. *Can. Field-Nat.* 112:586-595. Can. Wildl. Serv., Box 6227, 17 Waterfowl Lane, Sackville, N.B. E4L 1G6 (During the summer/fall periods of 1987-1991, 246 HY American Black Ducks in three wetlands in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were radio-marked and monitored. Radio-marking helped determine timing and distance of migration and degree of hunting mortality of birds in relation to management regime of each study area.) MKM

Wetland feeding site use by White Ibises (*Eudocimus albus*) breeding in coastal South Carolina. T. L. De Santo, J. W. Johnston, and K. L. Bildstein. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:167-176. U.S.D.A. Pacific Northwest Res. Stn., Forestry Sci. Lab., Suite 2A, 2770 Sherwood Lane, Juneau, AK 99801 (Monitoring of 11 nesting adult White Ibises fitted with backpack radiotelemetry units helped demonstrate differential rates of feeding in specific habitats as their chicks grew. One male found entangled in his harness the day after it was attached died six days later, but most returned to their nest-sites within 30 minutes of transmitter attachment.) MKM

Reproduction of Black-crowned Night-Herons related to predation and contaminants in Oregon and Washington, USA. L. J. Blus, B. A. Rattner, M. J. Melancon, and C. J. Henny. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:185-197. U.S. Geol. Surv., Biol. Resources Div., Forest & Rangeland Ecosystem Sci. Cent., 3080 SE Clearwater Dr., Corvallis, OR 97333 (Bands placed on the legs of 61 young at about two weeks of age helped determine survival rate to fledging.) MKM

Population dynamics and conservation of Snail Kites in Florida: the importance of spatial and temporal scales. R. E. Bennetts and W. M. Kitchens. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:324-329. Dept. Wildl. Ecol. & Conservation, Florida Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit, Univ. Florida, Gainesville, FL 32961-0450 (Movements of 271 radio-tagged kites demonstrated the high mobility of this species in relation to rainfall/drought conditions and resulting changes in availability of food and showed that survival and reproduction decrease during prolonged periods of drought). MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Changes in the abundance of Silvereyes in a central Victorian vineyard during the grape ripening period. T. C. Burton. 1996. *Corella* 20:61-66. Div. Biol. & Chem. Sci., La Trobe Univ., Bendigo, Box 199, Bendigo, Victoria 3550, Australia (Capture/recapture data from Silvereyes netted and color-banded during 1988-1993 grape ripening seasons suggested very low survival rates, with only four recoveries elsewhere. In spite of the loss of numerous birds from the population, numbers grew during the season, suggesting influx into the vineyard. Banding helped determine subspecies, showing that the Tasmanian subspecies formed up to 26% of the population, with birds arriving in March and April.) MKM

Recovery round-up. Hon. Editor [A. E. Cam]. 1996. *Corella* 20:75-76. 79 Harbour Ave., Lawson, NSW 2220, Australia (Twenty-nine records of recoveries or returns of 18 species banded in Australia and/or re-encountered there. Of species that also occur in North America, these included longevity data on Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Wandering Albatross, Red-tailed Tropicbird, Cattle Egret, Bar-tailed Godwit, Curlew Sandpiper and Barn Owl and records of significant distances between banding and recovery sites for Black-

browed Albatross, Yellow-nosed Albatross, Marsh Sandpiper and Curlew Sandpiper.) MKM

Indications of year 2000 Arctic breeding success based on the percentage of first year birds in Australia in the summer 2000/01 austral summer. C. Minton, R. Jessop, P. Collins, and C. Hassell. 2001. *Arctic Birds* 3:31-32. 165 Dalgerty Rd., Beaumaris, 3191, Australia (Data on total numbers and proportions of first-year birds of eight shorebird species caught in southeastern Australia during winter 2000-2001 compared with percent of first-year birds caught during winter 1999-2000 as well as similar data from nine shorebird species caught in northwestern Australia during the same periods.) MKM

Successful double-brooding in European Shags. S. Wanless and M. P. Harris. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:291-294. Inst. Terr. Ecol., Banchory Res. Stn., Hill of Brathens, Banchory, Kincardineshire AB31 4BY, U.K. (During a 12-year study in Scotland, 30 cases were documented in which pairs continued to occupy nest sites after first broods had fledged, three in 1987 and 27 in 1995. Eggs were laid in 22 of these nests, six of these apparent second clutches hatched and five fledged young. None of the parental occupants of the nests appeared to have changed, both parents were confirmed by reading bands to be the same as the parents of the first nesting at one 1987 nest and two 1995 nests, and at least one parent was confirmed as the same at four more nests.) MKM

Long-term monitoring and conservation of herons in France and Italy. H. Hafner and M. Fasola. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:298-305. Station Biol. de la Tour du Valet, le Sambuc, F-13200 Arles, France (Includes role of banding in 29 years of monitoring breeding and wintering populations of several heron species in southern France and 21 years of similar studies in northwestern Italy. A Little Egret study started in France in 1982 is the longest-lasting individual marking study conducted on any Ciconiiform species to date. Sightings of Cattle Egrets color-banded in the Camargue suggest that initial breeding by this species in Italy in 1989 was by birds dispersing from the Rhone area. Observations in France and Spain of banded Little Egrets have helped unravel complexities of relationships among weather patterns, inter-year and inter-

colony survival rates, differential post-breeding movements and differences in wintering areas. Observations and recoveries of Little Egrets banded at Spanish colonies have revealed differences between eastern and western Spanish colonies, with separate breeding and post-breeding dispersal ranges.) MKM

Long-term studies and conservation of Greater Flamingos in the Camargue and Mediterranean.

A. R. Johnson. 1997. *Colonial Waterbirds* 20:306-315. Station Biol. de la Tour du Valet, le Sambuc, F-13200 Arles, France (During a 50-year study of flamingos breeding in the Camargue delta, over 220,000 sightings and recoveries of birds banded since 1947 have shown that Camargue-hatched birds exploit wetlands throughout much of the Mediterranean and west Africa, that some individuals are sedentary while others are migratory or opportunistic, that feeding areas may be up to 180 km from the colony, that some birds show site fidelity to wintering areas, that mortality is episodic and unpredictable, and that many birds

live over 30 years. The first banding study of chicks from 1947 to 1961 yielded about 500 recoveries. Subsequent color-banding has been conducted in the Camargue, Italy and Spain. Over 70% of chicks marked in the Camargue have been observed at least once after fledging, some being observed over 300 times. The longevity record to date is 38 years.) MKM

Observations on colour-banded Regent Honeyeaters *Xanthomyza phrygia*.

A. J. Ley, D. L. Oliver, and B. Williams. 1996. *Corella* 20:88-92. 19 Lynches Rd., Armidale, New South Wales 2350, Australia (Degree of inter-year fidelity to nest-sites was determined from observations of 46 color-banded birds and re-nesting after the first brood fledged was demonstrated. Measurements [weight, head-bill length, wing length and tail length] showed that males are mostly larger than females, with a small overlap.) MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl

RCT = Robert C. Tweit

Books

THE SAN PEDRO RIVER, A DISCOVERY GUIDE. By Roseann Beggy Hanson. 2001. University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ. 205 pp. \$17.95 U.S.

Purchasing this guidebook to the San Pedro River is like buying two books in one. First, you get a book that can help plan a trip to one of America's "Last Great Places," as named by the Nature Conservancy. The San Pedro River is the last undammed and unchanneled river in the arid Southwest. Its biodiversity is one of the highest in the U.S. Over 390 bird species have been seen along the river, as well as 82 species of mammals.

The chapters are organized by section of the river in the same direction that the water flows, from south to north. At the end of each chapter, an exploration guide provides directions to the different sites and describes the available recreational activities, such as birding. Appendix I provides species lists of plants, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The bird list contains abundance and residency information and federal

conservation status of each species. Hence, you can determine the best time of year to visit and the likelihood of seeing your "target" birds. Appendix 2 provides contact information for conservation groups, such as Audubon. I found these sections well organized and easy to use.

However, the second book within this book is the more endearing. In each chapter, Ms. Hanson vividly describes her experiences along the river and uses her stories as an avenue to educate the reader about the river. She covers difficult topics, such as hydrology, geology, archaeology and ecology. The information flows effortlessly from story telling to teaching. The reader finishes the book more knowledgeable than he or she began and the trip down the San Pedro River was most enjoyable.

Susan M. Wethington
Box 1125
Patagonia, AZ 85624-1125