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News, Notes, Comments

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Of the 62 downies, 32 were males and 30 were females—a pretty even split. Twenty-six were birds that had fledged the preceeding summer (2002). Seven had been fledged in 2001; six in 2000; two in 1999; and two in 1997. These last two, if you count on your fingers, are six years old. Some birds which had been banded as adults originally could not be aged more precisely.

There were a total of 292 captures during the 14 banding sessions. This illustrates the difference between a marked population and one that is visually counted!

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Downy Woodpecker
by George West

Request for Data on Recaptured Migrants

I am collecting information on site faithfulness of songbirds to stopover sites. Specifically, I am interested in songbirds that return to the site of banding in subsequent years and whose breeding and wintering grounds are at least 100 mi from the banding site. Recapturing “good” transients during migration is unusual; however, some banding stations have encountered several returns in only a few years.

Because these data are rarely reported, collecting this information is difficult. Anyone with recaptures that might satisfy the criteria for a site-faithful migrant is encouraged to submit records. Information that I need are the specific location of the banding site, the species, age and sex (if known), dates of initial banding, and all subsequent recaptures. For each species with a recapture, I would also like to know how many birds of that species have been banded at your station.

All information submitted will be appropriately acknowledged in any publications. Please submit records and address any questions to me at the address below. Thank you very much for your interest and assistance.

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