

2011

## Recent Literature

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### Recommended Citation

McNicholl, Martin K. and Loughman, W. D. Bill (2011) "Recent Literature," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 36 : Iss. 2 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol36/iss2/5>

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## Recent Literature

### BANDING HISTORIES AND BIOGRAPHIES

**Migration Monitoring in the Atlantic Provinces: where birds and ocean meet.** L. Laviolette. 2011. *BirdWatch Canada* 54:8-9. R.R. 1, 22350 City Rd. 10, Glen Robertson, ON K0B 1H0 (Brief overview of organized banding and "systematic visual observations" in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with brief histories of banding at several bird observatories and other research stations.) MKM

### EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Lord Howe Woodhen –for whom the bell tolls?** J. Schoenjahn. 2010. *ABSA [Australian Bird Study Association] Newsletter* 101:2. c/o S. Boddington, Box A313, Sydney South, NSW 1235, Australia (The combination of seeing the remains of a woodhen that was preyed upon by an introduced Masked Owl and hearing the "very audible" tinkle of two bands of another woodhen on Lord Howe Island caused the author to question the wisdom of using double metal bands to study this endangered species.) MKM

### IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

**Sex identification in four owl species from Idaho: DNA and morphometrics.** L. Leppert, T. V. Zadorozhny, J. R. Belthoff and A. M. Dufty, Jr. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:291-294. Biol. Dept., Univ. of Memphis, 3774 Walker Ave., Memphis, TN 38152 (Although gender can be assigned to most Northern Saw-whet Owls by measurements, some fall in an overlap zone. Flammulated Owls appear not to be sexually dimorphic. The proportion of Burrowing Owl and Western Screech-Owls that can be assigned to sex by such measurements falls between these two species. Analysis of DNA in blood collected from 701 owls of these four species during mist-netting and banding or nesting studies in Idaho suggested that DNA from blood samples can be used to determine gender of most morphometrically indistinguishable individuals.) MKM

**The breeding biology of the White-rumped Swiftlet *Aerodramus spodiopygius* in Samoa.** M. K. Tarburton. 2009. *Corella* 33:1-6. 3 Freda Court, Blackburn South, Victoria 3130, Australia (Molt was found to be initiated in five different months and completed in eight months, with duration in individual birds unknown. Limited data were obtained on mass of newly hatched young, on mass and wing lengths on specific numbers of days after hatching and on adult mass.) MKM

**Nikon photo quiz.** W. D'Anna. 2010. *OFO [Ontario Field Ornithologists] News* 28(1):14-15. c/o Ontario Field Ornithologists, Box 455, Stn. R, Toronto, ON M4G 4E1 (Review of identifying features that distinguish Swainson's Hawk in flight from other flying raptors that have occurred in Ontario.) MKM

**Morphometric data from recent specimens and live individuals of the Grey Falcon *Falco hypoleucos*.** J. Schoenjahn. 2011. *Corella* 35:16-22. 1 Elimatta Way, City Beach, Western Australia 6015, Australia (Mass, wing lengths, tail lengths, bill chords from front edge of cere, exposed culmens and tarsal lengths are tabulated by gender for up to eight specimens and three live-caught individuals. The text notes potential errors in these measurements, suggests tentative criteria for gender differentiation [pending larger sample sizes] and indicates that the band size currently recommended for this species is probably inappropriate for males and many females, necessitating that tarsal diameters be checked before banding these rare falcons.) MKM

### NORTH AMERICAN BIRD BANDING

**The 2005 falcon watch final report.** E. Ticknor. 2005. *Trail & Landscape* 39:181-185. c/o Ottawa Field-Nat. Club, Box 35069, Westgate P.O., Ottawa, ON K1Z1A2 (Two chicks were banded on a penthouse balcony in Ottawa, ON to help monitor their progress.) MKM

**Population fluctuations and agonistic interaction of Peregrine and Prairie falcons in central Alberta, 1960-2006.** D. Dekker and R. Corrigan. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:255-263. 3819-112A St. NW, Edmonton, AB T6J 1K4 (The band number of an adult male Peregrine Falcon that appeared at a Prairie Falcon nest containing cross-fostered Peregrines along the Red Deer River in 1992 and brought food to the young for several weeks revealed that it was captive-reared and had been cross-fostered into a Prairie Falcon nest.) MKM

**Ecology and genetics of an isolated population of Swainson's Hawks in Illinois.** D. Wenny, L. Anderson, D. Kirk, J. Bergstrom, D. Enstrom and K. Paige. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:270-276. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv., Lost Mound Field Stn., 3159 Crim Dr., Savanna, IL 61074. (The 2004 return of an immature banded as one of three nestlings in 2003 provided direct evidence for strong philopatry apparent in this population.) MKM

**Predatory behavior and diet of wintering male Cooper's Hawk in a rural habitat.** T. C. Roth II and S. L. Lima. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:287-290. Dept. Ecol. & Organismal Biol., Indiana State Univ., Terre Haute, IN 47809 (Prey and prey capture during the winters of 2001-2004 were studied on two adult and nine immature male Cooper's Hawks in Indiana that were caught in Bal-chatri traps, banded and fitted with transmitters as part of a comparison of foods eaten and predation habits of both genders of Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks.) MKM

**Suspected predation by accipiters on radio-tracked American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) in eastern Pennsylvania, U.S.A.** G. C. Farmer, K. McCarty, S. Robertson, B. Robertson and K. L. Bildstein. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:294-297. Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, 410 Summer Valley, Orwigsburg, PA 17961 (Eleven female and eight male kestrels were captured in bal-chatri traps between September and January 1996-1998, banded and fitted with radio-transmitters. Of eight found later dead, five were attributed to avian

predation, one to starvation and two to inconclusive causes of death. Observations revealed no apparent effects of the transmitters on the kestrels.) MKM

**The Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.** N. K. Dawe and A. C. Stewart. 2010. *British Columbia Birds* 20:24-40. 438 Temple St., Parksville, BC. V9P 1A3 (Banding data were included in a review of historical and current status of natural and introduced populations of five Canada Goose races on Vancouver Island. The first two Canada Geese recovered on Vancouver Island were Great Basin Canada Geese [*Branta canadensis moffitti*] shot near Victoria in 1949 and 1953 after being banded near Lac La Hache, BC, in 1949 and 1951. Other individuals of this race banded at several BC, Oregon and Washington locations have been recovered at several Vancouver Island sites. Several banding recoveries and observations of color-marked birds indicate that Alaska-breeding Dusky Canada Geese (*B. c. occidentalis*) migrate through or winter on Vancouver Island. Banding data also helped document a substantial increase in Canada Geese on the island in recent decades, resulting largely from several introductions of mixed-race birds.) MKM

**Fall 2010: the season that kept on giving.** M. Burrell. 2011. *BirdWatch Canada* 54:22. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (From 12 August to 15 November 2010, Long Point Bird Observatory's 50<sup>th</sup> fall migration monitoring season was highlighted by catching a new record of 17,500+ birds, including an unusually high proportion of hatch-year birds. Two of the three newly banded species were towhees [Green-tailed and Spotted], while Sharp-shinned Hawks, Black-capped Chickadees and Cape May Warblers were banded in usually high numbers and impressive totals obtained for several other species.) MKM

**An endangered population and roadside mortality: three western Yellow-breasted Chat fatalities in the south Okanagan valley, British Columbia.** A. J. Potvin and C. A. Bishop. 2010. *B.C. Birds* 20:45-48. Bishop: Environ. Canada, 5421 Robertson Rd., Delta, BC V4K 2N2 (A color-

banded chat found dead at Osoyoos, BC in August 2005 had been banded at six days of age near Oliver, BC, 15.1 km farther north in June 2005. A color-banded ASY female found dead in July 2008 near Oliver had been banded three days earlier 84 km farther west.) MKM

**The secret lives of birds.** S. Leckie. 2010. *OFO [Ontario Field Ornithologists] News* 28(1):10. Box 455, Stn. R, Toronto, ON M4G 4E1 (A wing-tag on a female Trumpeter Swan that hatched and was tagged at Wye Marsh, ON, in 1999 allowed observers to document her return there for six years and her movement to several other Ontario sites by Dec 2009. A tagged Great Egret observed in South Carolina in Nov 2009 had been banded as a nestling that June 885 km north on Chantry Is., Lake Huron, ON.) MKM

**Woolley Lagoon, Seward Peninsula, Alaska, USA.** P. Bruner and A. Bruner. 2008. *Arctic Birds* 10:34-35. BHU-H#1775, 55-220 Kulanui St., Laie, HI 96762 (By the fourth year of studying Ruddy Turnstones on the Seward Peninsula, 20 adult and 16 chicks were banded. The female of a pair banded in 2004 returned in 2006 and with the chick of a 2004 neighbor used a nest that had been used by another pair in 2005. She and her 2004 mate re-mated in 2007 15 m from her 2006 nest and 110 m from their 2004 nest. Another 2004 male returned in 2007 after being observed in Hawaii each winter from 2004 to 2007. A 2005-banded male returned to nest with new mates in 2005-2007 annually, with a combined nesting area stretching 180 m, the longest recorded to date.) MKM

**Bylot Island, Nunuvut, Canada.** M.-C. Cadieux, G. Gauthier, C. Gagnon, E. Levesque, J. Bety, D. Berteaux, J. Lefebvre, D. Berteaux and A. Reed. 2008. *Arctic Birds* 10:41. Gauthier: Dept. Biol., Univ. Laval, Quebec, QC G1K 7P4 (Of ARGOS transmitters attached to 12 nesting female Snowy Owls in 2007, all were still operational at the end of September. At least seven migrated south and were detected up to 700 km from Bylot Is. A high ratio of young/adult Snow Geese in August banding drives suggested higher than usual survival of young.) MKM

**Volunteering for bird conservation on James Bay.** J. Iron. 2011. *OFO [Ontario Field Ornithologists] News* 29(1):1-3. 9 Lichen Place, Toronto, ON M3A 1X3. During five weeks of field work in each of two summers at Longridge Point, along the Ontario shore of James Bay, over 250 Red Knots were seen with flags from Argentina, Brazil, elsewhere in Canada, Chile and Delaware Bay, USA.) MKM

## NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Raptor nest decorations are a reliable threat against conspecifics.** F. Sergio, J. Blas, A. Tanferna, L. Lopez, J. A. Lemus and F. Hiraldo. 2011. *Science* 331:327-330. Dept. Conservation Biol., Estacion Biol. de Donana, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC) c/Americo Vespucio, 41092 Seville, Spain (The authors experimentally demonstrated that a nice-looking, well-maintained home [nest] is a strong disincentive to attack by conspecific predatory Black Kites in Spain's Donana National Park. Levels of decoration of nests in a long-studied population of banded birds were compared with rate of egg predation. Acceptance of decorative materials offered to the birds varied with age and territory quality and breeding success and survival tended to be better in well-decorated nests. Bands showed that young and senescent nesters were less able to defend the nests against conspecific predators.) WDL

**First breeding success of Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in mainland Spain since 1981 using cross-fostering.** R. Muriel, M. Ferrer, E. Casado and D. Schmidt. 2006. *Journal of Raptor Research* 40:304-305. Dept. of Biodiversity Conservation, C.S.I.C., Avd. M<sup>a</sup> Luisa s/n 41013, Sevilla, Spain (Fledging date, distances moved, travel speeds and wintering areas of two Osprey chicks cross-fostered to a Black Kite nest were monitored through radio-telemetry) MKM

**Recovery round-up.** Hon. Editor [J. Farrell]. 2009. *Corella* 33:23-24. School of Education, Macquarie Univ., NWS 2212, Australia (Including

nine recoveries of four species that also occur in North America, with minimum longevity examples of Peregrine Falcon 14 years, one month, Ruddy Turnstone eight years, six months, Red Knot nine years, nine months and Roseate Tern [six records] 16 years five months - 19 years, five months.) MKM

**Ruddy hell: turnstone flies 27,000 kms –twice!!**

C. Minton. 2011. *ABSA [Australian Bird Study Association] Newsletter* 102:3. Phillip Is. Nature Park, Box 97, Cowes, Victoria 3922, Australia. A geolocator attached to a turnstone in 2009 at Flinders, Victoria, documented a northward non-stop flight of about 7600 km to Taiwan in six days, a refuelling stop there before flying north to the Yellow Sea and another 5,000 km to Siberian breeding grounds. After breeding, the bird flew east to Alaska's Aleutian Islands, then flew southward over the Pacific Ocean 7,800 km to Kirabati, staying six weeks before continuing another 5,000 km trip to Flinders. In 2010, it undertook a similar trip, but stopped in the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu on the southward portion of the round trip.) MKM

**Regent Honeyeaters –mapping their movements through song.**

V. Powys. 2010. *Corella* 34:94-102. "Rocklands," 1897C Glen Davis Rd., Capertee Valley, NSW 2846, Australia (A map of banding recoveries and resightings shows movements of up to 534 km. The color bands on a Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater that mimicked a Red Wattlebird indicated that it may have learned the song in another area six years previously.) MKM

**Lord Howe Woodhen –for whom the bell tolls? –**

**reply.** H. Bower. 2011. *ABSA [Australian Bird Study Assoc.] Newsletter* 102:2. c/o S. Boddington, Box A313, Sydney South, NSW 1235 (Summary of captive breeding/release project since 1980 that has increased the population of this endangered species through a combination of captive breeding and reduction of feral pigs and cats. A loss of more than 40% of plastic bands from these birds has resulted in replacing them with metal bands exclusively. Further plans involve eradication of mice, rats and

Masked Owls, all species that were introduced to the island, and further research on the natural history of the woodhen.) MKM

**Aspects of the biology of the Grey Falcon *Falco hypoleucos* in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.**

A. J. G. Sutton. 2011. *Corella* 35:11-15. 157 Nawaday Way, Singleton, New South Wales 2330, Australia (Wing, tail, tarsal and bill [exposed culmen including cere] lengths and "weights" of six chicks banded at two nests are tabulated, as well as the head-bill lengths for the three chicks of one of the nests. Bands showed that two juveniles associating within 1 km of a nest three months after fledging were brood mates from that nest.) MKM

**Observations on breeding in the Black Swan *Cygnus atratus* in south-eastern Queensland.**

J. T. Coleman. 2010. *Corella* 34:103-106. 22 Parker St., Shailer Park, Qld., 4128, Australia (Standard Australian bands and colored leg bands on nine of 22 territorial pairs in 2007 and 19 of 26 breeding pairs in 2008 helped determine breeding status of pairs, numbers of nesting attempts of each pair each year, and nesting success of each breeding attempt and monitor subsequent fate of fledged offspring.) MKM

**First recovery of a banded Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* for Australia.**

Anonymous. 2011. *ABSA [Australian Bird Study Association] Newsletter* 102:4. [A previously overlooked record of a shearwater banded as an adult in Wales in Sep 1960 and recovered dead 16,208 km away in South Australia one year, two months and 13 days later in Nov 1961.] MKM

**Note:** Thanks to Kay Loughman for preliminary editing of an abstract in this issue.

**WDL = W. D. (Bill) Loughman**  
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