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## Recent Literature

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# Recent Literature

## BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

**Mary Houston receives a 2013 Alumnus of Influence Award from the University of Saskatchewan College of Arts and Science.** Anonymous. 2013. *Nature Views* 174:7. Rm. 206, 1860 Lorne St., Regina, SK S4P 2L7 (Brief account of some of the many contributions of bander of "thousands" of birds on her bluebird trail, in her Saskatoon backyard and at colonial waterbird islands, most notably of 5340 Bohemian Waxwings, with appreciative comment on her additional many collaborations in the contributions of her husband, C. Stuart Houston, and a short list of some of her previous awards.) MKM

**In memoriam Fred Bodsworth (1918-2012).** G. Coady. 2012. *Ontario Birds* 30:168-175. 330 Crystal Beach Blvd., Whitby, ON L1N 9Z7 (Brief biography of outstanding novelist, whose many contributions to Ontario conservation, nature study and ornithology included banding of Bank Swallows near Port Burwell in the 1930s and service to the Long Point Bird Observatory as an Honorary Director since 1970.) MKM

**Distinguished ornithologist Jim Richards.** G. Coady. 2012. *Ontario Birds* 30:176-179. 330 Crystal Beach Blvd., Whitby, ON L1N 9Z7 (Brief biography and account of ornithological contributions to date of naturalist Jim Richards, who has banded several hundred Eastern Bluebirds on a 400-box trail on Ontario's Oak Ridges Moraine.) MKM

**BSC people profile Hugh McArthur.** Anonymous. 2013. *BirdWatch Canada* 62:2. c/o Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Brief profile of active volunteer in several Bird Studies Canada programs, including over 10,000 hours at Long Point Bird Observatory's Old Cut Field Station.) MKM

**The Calgary Bird Banding Society.** Anonymous. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 39(1):43-44. c/o Fed. of Alberta Nat., 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5K 3K6 (Brief account of operations of 1995-founded banding society, which operates Inglewood Bird Sanctuary in Calgary and bands birds in nearby foothills and in Costa Rica, where over 1000 Swainson's Thrushes were banded. A fall project focuses on fall migration of Northern Saw-whet Owls west of Calgary.) MKM

## EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**The Long Point File [:] Update from the CMMN Steering Committee.** J. McCracken, S. Mackenzie, M. Gahbauer, M.-A. Hudson and A. Camfield. 2013. *BirdWatch Canada* 62:22. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Overview and update of research and techniques of Canadian Migration Monitoring Network in which 27 stations across Canada [mapped] use standardized bird-banding and daily counts of migrants to monitor bird populations. Eight of Canada's ten provinces are represented in the network to date, with Newfoundland/Labrador not yet included. Examples of collaborative national research projects are included, as are study subjects addressed by network data.) MKM

## IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

**Report of the Wildlife Data Centre: 1 July to 31 December 2011.** R. W. Campbell. 2011. *Wildlife Afield* 8:210-216. 2511 Kilgarey Pl., Victoria, BC V8N 1J6 (Includes photograph of Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco with all-white tail at Smithers, BC). MKM

## NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Black-headed Gull and Field Sparrow.** P. Horch. 2012. *Nature Alberta* 42(3):36. c/o Nature Alberta, 11759 Groat Rd., AB T5M 3K6 (A HY Field Sparrow captured and banded at Elkwater Banding Station in Aug 2012 near Medicine Hat, AB, was probably the province's second record.) MKM

**Long-eared Owls in Peace region.** M. Blom. 2012. *Nature Alberta* 42(3):40-41. c/o Nature Alberta, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T2M 3K6 (Four young banded at two of five nests found near Jean Cote, AB, helped document a northwestern extension of the breeding range of Long-eared Owls in the province). MKM

**Historical colony status and recent extirpations of burrow-nesting seabirds at Seabird Rocks, British Columbia.** H. R. Carter, A. E. Burger, P. V. Clarkson, Y. Zharikov, M. S. Rodway, S. G. Sealy, R. W. Campbell and D. F. Hatler. 2012. *Wildlife Afield* 9:13-48. Carter Biol. Consulting,

1015 Hampshire Rd., Victoria, BC V8S 4S8 (During a 1943 visit to this important seabird-nesting island, Theed Pearce banded 37 Glaucous-winged Gulls.) MKM

**Report of the Wildlife Data Centre: 1 January to 30 June 2012.** R. W. Campbell and L. M. Van Damme. 2012. *Wildlife Afield* 9:77-84. 2511 Kilgarey Pl., Victoria, BC V8N 1J6 (A band showed that an adult Bald Eagle found close to death from poisoning near its nest in Abbotsford, BC, in May 2012 had been released nearby from rehabilitation in 1994, nesting successfully in the intervening years. Five banded Dark-eyed Juncos [both Oregon and Slate-colored races] recaptured on 16 Apr 2012 at Mugaha Marsh, BC, had all been banded there during 2011 or 2012, whereas a HY Pine Siskin banded there in Aug 1911 was recovered 3140 km east at Cabot Head Bird Observatory on Lake Huron, ON, 56 days later. A female Rufous Hummingbird banded near Dunster, BC, in Jul 2011 was recovered in Dec 2011 at Foley, AL, about 2250 miles [about 3620 km] southeast. Color bands on some Caspian Terns nesting on a roof in Richmond, BC, in 2012 showed that they had been banded as HY and AHY birds at East Sand Islands in the mouth of the Columbia River, OR.) MKM

**Summary of 2012 Saskatchewan vulture tagging program with rewards.** C. S. Houston. 2013. *Nature Views* 174:10. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (During the 10<sup>th</sup> year of vulture-tagging in SK, 15 new nest locations brought the total of abandoned buildings used as nest sites to 195, with 153 young tagged in 92 successful nests. This brings the ten-year total to 927 wing-tags applied to right wings of vultures at 545 successful nestings. Breeding home ranges have been determined to range from 47 to 953 km squared, with adults roosting 1-38 km away from nests at night. All winter ranges determined to date are in Venezuela, ranging from 54 to 76,731 km squared.) MKM

**An old, older and yet older Bald Eagle.** R. Boswell. 2010. *Postmedia News* 10 Nov 2011:p?. c/o R. W. Campbell, 2511 Kilgarey Pl., Victoria, BC V8N 1J6 (A Bald Eagle banded in Maine in 1977 was killed by a car at 32 years, 10 months of age in New Brunswick –as excerpted in *Wildlife Afield* 8:220, 2011.) MKM

**Band encounters of Canada Geese banded in Ottawa, 1987-2011.** C. A. Young, S. W. Meyer and C. M. Sharp. 2012. *Ontario Birds* 30:126-139. (Encounter data were examined from 1662 goslings banded by the Innis Point Bird Observatory from 1987 to 1991 and by the Canadian Wildlife Service between 1999 and 2011, when colored tarsal markers were also added. None of the banded birds were encountered during 1987 or 1988, whereas 443 [26.6%] were shot or identified by sight subsequently. This primarily introduced population showed a high rate of philopatry to the breeding area and was less migratory than more native populations, with most encounters in nearby parts of ON and QC. More distant encounters were up to 1502 km elsewhere in ON, as well as DE, MD, MI, MO, NJ, NY, PE, VI, VT and WI. Movement patterns are examined by age, gender and season.) MKM

**BC shorebird surveys a great success!** Anonymous. 2013. *Bird Studies Canada Latest News* 13 Sep 2013:3. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (A Western Sandpiper banded as a chick at Nome, AK, on 28 Jun 2013 was recovered 50 days later over 3000 km south on Sidney Is., BC, on 17 Aug 2013.) MKM

**LPBO bands 900,000<sup>th</sup> bird!** Anonymous. 2013. *BirdWatch Canada* 64:23. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (An adult male Red-winged Blackbird banded by Chris Sukha on 23 Apr 2013 brought the observatory's banding total to 900,000 birds of 271 species banded since 1960.) MKM

**Watch for – wing-tagged Turkey Vultures in Alberta.** R. W. Nelson. 2009. *Alberta Naturalist* 39(1):7-8. 2118-63<sup>rd</sup> St., Camrose, AB T4V 2W2 (After studying vultures in east-central Alberta from 2003, Nelson began collaborating with Rick Morris in 2008 to tag nestlings in abandoned buildings. Of 20 tagged with yellow wing-tags at 11 nests, one collided with a vehicle within a month and two were seen together in Venezuela in Jan 2009. Over 300 vultures were fitted with green wing-tags in Saskatchewan from 2003-2008 by C. Stuart Houston and colleagues, with sightings in AB as well as SK, Venezuela and locations between. Vultures tagged in Venezuela by Keith Bildstein and colleagues during winter may also appear in Canada.) MKM

**Extreme fighting arrives in Alberta: The spring 2008 Peregrine Falcon migration!** G. Holroyd and H. Trefry. 2009. *Nature Alberta* 39(1):33-37. Can. Wildl. Serv., 4123 122 St., Edmonton, AB T6J 1Z1 (Detailed accounts are given of the movements of two Peregrine Falcons fitted with solar-powered transmitters at their nests in 2006. A female, banded in Edmonton, was displaced from her nest-site in 2007. In 2008, she wintered in Colombia. Her flight north was tracked daily through Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, four Mexican states, Texas, Colorado, and Montana until she reached Billings on 20 Apr, when further progress was delayed by a snowstorm. She started flying north again on 24 Apr, arriving in Edmonton on the 25<sup>th</sup>, when she lost a fight with the female that displaced her in 2007. The victor was in poor shape after the fight and was later replaced by a third female. The original female was tracked subsequently at several sites between Edmonton and Calgary, until being found exhausted on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River. She was released successfully after 11 days in a rehabilitation facility and spent the rest of the summer in Edmonton. The male left his wintering site on the border of the Mexican states of Chiapas and Oaxaca on 10 Apr and was tracked daily through the rest of Mexico, Texas, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and several Alberta sites until arriving at his old nest-site on 25 Apr after weather delays. At the nest-site, he lost a fight with a new male, being found later paired to another female at a different nest, where he helped the female raise eggs of two previous males.) MKM

**Lake Erie's Bank Swallows.** M. Falconer. 2013. *Bird Watch Canada* 62:7-8. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Monitoring of transmitters attached to adult Bank Swallows captured at burrows near Port Burwell, ON, in 2012 spent most of the daytime during the breeding season foraging near the colony, but several, especially males, roosted at night up to 35 km east of the colonies, with some young left alone each night as young as nine days after hatching.) MKM

**Last Mountain Bird Observatory –preliminary results –spring 2013.** A. R. Smith. 2013. *Nature Views* 175:9. Nature Sask., Room 206, 1860 Lorne St., Regina, SK S4P 2L7 (During the 22nd year of standardized coverage, 381 new birds of 50 species were banded and 40 birds of 13 species recaptured, with the first recapture of a Red-winged Blackbird bringing the total of species recaptured to 25, with

the total captured remaining at 99. Peaks of individuals and species banded, top ten species and amount of effort are highlighted.) MKM

**Calgary area nest-box monitors['] annual report 2013.** B. Taylor and D. Stiles. 2013. 20 Lake Wapta Rise SE, Calgary, AB T2J 2M9 unpublished MS. 18 pp. (During 2013, 26 of over 90 monitors banded 2958 Tree Swallows and 2790 Mountain Bluebirds in an above-average year for bluebirds, with several second broods. Four Tree Swallows were recaptured at seven years old and one Mountain Bluebird at six years old. Tables list locations and numbers of boxes monitored by each monitor or group of monitors, km covered by most trails and numbers of empty boxes/trail. Numbers of nesting attempts, eggs of Tree Swallows and of first and second broods of Mountain Bluebirds, as well as successful nests, hatchlings and fledglings in each category are tabulated by monitor/monitor group and overall totals in each quadrant of the study area, followed by comparative data from 2012 for the entire study area and 2013 ratios for each species of eggs per nest attempt, hatchlings per successful nest and fledgling per hatchlings for the entire area. A graph of 1992-2013 total fledglings suggests that Tree Swallows are increasing gradually in the area, albeit with a slight 2013 decrease, while Mountain Bluebird numbers show a gradual increase. Also included in the report are obituaries by Stiles of Don Conrad, who banded an average of about 700 Mountain Bluebirds per year from 2001 to 2011 and about 500 Tree Swallows per year from 2002-2011 and encountered recoveries of two bluebirds from Montana and both species from other parts of Alberta and of Ken Fry, who did not band birds, but managed to pinpoint the origin of a banded pigeon found dead close to its coop. Comments are included on House Sparrows and House Wren nests and on likely causes of nest failures. Bill Taylor has provided a full-page, illustrated guide to distinguishing SY from ASY birds during the spring. New bandings are tabulated by bander, species and age. Recapture data are discussed in considerable detail, with notes on distances moved, differences between movements of some birds between/among years, longevity and other details, including predation and nest-site fidelity or lack thereof, with tables of distances moved, age at banding and ages of recoveries for each species. Numbers of each species recovered at each age from five to nine years are also tabulated for each year from 2004 to 2013.) MKM

**Contrasting patterns of survival and dispersal in multiple habitats reveal an ecological trap in a food-caching bird.** D. R. Norris, D. T. Tyler Flockhart and D. Strickland. 2013. *Oecologia* D01 10.1007/s00442-013-2680-1 (online). 9 unnumbered pp. Dept. Integrated Biol., Univ. Guelph, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1 (Multistate capture-recapture analysis was used to assess observations of Gray Jays color-banded for 34 years [1977-2010] in Algonquin Provincial Park, ON, to assess the relationship between proportion of conifers on territories and habitat quality for survival. Neither adults nor juveniles had higher survival rates on higher-conifer territories, but both age classes were less likely to leave high-conifer territories and when they did disperse, they went to territories with higher levels of conifers. Bands helped show that the dominant offspring in each brood tended to stay with the parents longer than its sub-dominant siblings and were more likely to settle in or near parental territories, whereas their sub-dominant siblings dispersed earlier and seldom returned to their natal territories. Birds that hatched in territories with higher proportions of conifers were most likely to disperse to territories with high conifer proportions, whereas those that hatched on territories with lower levels of conifers were more likely to move to territories with higher proportions of conifers. Survival rates were 4% lower on territories adjacent to major highways than on territories not bordering highways during spring/summer, when no evidence indicated directional dispersal towards or away from highways. Results suggest that Gray Jays have higher survival rates during the fall/winter period than during the spring/summer period because of greater mortality from avian predators rather than because of seasonal differences in food availability. Mortality of adults increased by 6% for juveniles and 2% for adults adjacent to highways during fall/winter.) MKM

## NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Analysis of breeding data of the Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena* near Manjimup, Western Australia.** S. Simojoki and S. J. J. F. Davies. 2013. *Corella* 37:36-40. Dept. Environ. & Agriculture, Curtin Univ. of Technol., G.P.O. Box 1987U, Perth 6845, West. Australia (Data collected by Dick and Molly Brown from 894 nests and 2260 birds banded after mist-net capture were analyzed and compared with data from two other

Australian and one New Zealand population. Clutch size and breeding success are analyzed in comparison with degree of migration, dryness, closeness to water and latitude. Banding data provided no evidence of breeding-site tenacity at Manjimup, in agreement with only one of 213 banded nestlings in Tasmania returning to nest.) MKM

**Seabird Islands No. 19/1 Little Broughton Island, New South Wales.** N. Carlile, D. Priddel and S. Callaghan. 2013. *Corella* 37:41-43. Office of Environ. & Heritage, Box 1967, Hurstville BC, New South Wales 1481, Australia (Seven of 198 Wedge-tailed Shearwaters banded as adults have returned to the banding sites, six after one year and one after 13 years, whereas two of 59 adult Short-tailed Shearwaters returned after one year and none of three adult Sooty Shearwaters have been recovered to date.) MKM

**Seabird Islands No. 20/1 North Rock, Broughton Group, New South Wales.** N. Carlile, D. Priddel and S. Callaghan. 2013. *Corella* 37:44-46. Office of Environ. & Heritage, Box 1967, Hurstville BC, New South Wales 1481, Australia. (No recoveries have yet been reported from five White-faced Storm-Petrels or 34 White-tailed Shearwaters banded.) MKM

**Note:** Thanks to Jean Iron for a copy of the Gray Jay paper by D. Ryan Norris and others abstracted in this issue.

MKM = *Martin K. McNicholl*

