

HERON RECOVERIES

By B. W. Beall

(The following is from a letter from Mr. Beall, to whom I had sent a carbon copy of Frank Frazier's article, which appears on the preceding page of this issue --- Ed.)

I was glad to receive your letter today. It is not often that I am able to obtain the details of the recovery of one of my bands.

Here are a few background details. The heronry is located on the south and west slope of a hill near Spiro, Oklahoma. The predominant vegetation is hawthorn, with some oak and elm. The dryness of the area is testified to by many small clumps of prickly pear, our local cactus.

About 300 pairs of birds nest in the heronry, mostly Little Blue Herons, with a few Common and Snowy Egrets. The birds nest from 4 to 15 feet up in the hawthorns. The Common Egrets generally nest in the upper parts of the small oaks. The bushes are so close together that the young birds can scramble from one bush to another.

I located the heronry in 1958 and have been banding there since then. About 2600 young birds have been banded. In 1961 850 young were banded, this year only 350.

Of the 2600 birds I have gotten 14 recoveries -- most were shot. The list follows:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Banded</u>	<u>Recovered</u>	<u>Location</u>
Common Egret	6/6/59	5/17/60	Comayagua, Honduras
Snowy Egret	6/25/61	11/9/61	Puntarenas, Costa Rica
" "	6/18/60	Sept/60	Muldron, Oklahoma
Little Blue Heron	6/13/59	3/11/60	near Lake Managua, Nicaragua
" "	6/4/60	12/10/60	Estacion Colonia, Tamaulipas, Mexico
" "	5/23/59	3/10/60	Moloacan, Vera Cruz, Mexico
" "	6/18/60	10/22/60	Quibdo, Choco, Colombia
" "	6/4/60	9/24/60	?, Panama
" "	6/13/59	8/21/59	Wister, Oklahoma
" "	5/23/59	7/16/59	West Fork, Arkansas
" "	6/6/59	8/18/61	New Madrid, Missouri
" "	6/4/60	9/30/60	Port de Quepos, Costa Rica
" "	6/11/61	10/8/61	Ship about 150 miles southwest of Costa Rica, caught and released
" "	(The fourteenth is the one taken in Peru (see preceding page)		

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