

RUDDY TURNSTONE RECOVERY

By Robert C. Frohling

Banding data on some shorebirds is just beginning to accumulate in significant amounts. Therefore, the following recovery is of interest.

A Ruddy Turnstone (#602-31372) banded at Moore's Beach, Cumberland County, New Jersey on 17 May 1964 was shot at Basse Pointe, Martinique, French West Indies on 23 August 1964. By the end of 1962, only 308 Ruddy Turnstones had been banded and, of these, only 6 had returned or been recovered (Van Velzen, Bird Banding Notes, Vol 5, No. 2, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1965).

Dr. Pere R. Pinchon, who reported the recovery, did not actually see the bird, so could not comment on its age or sex. Apparently, at least some turnstones retain an immature plumage into their first summer (Bent, U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 146: 285). I believe the bird was in adult plumage at the time of banding, but with a net-full of sandpipers to release I did not carefully examine it. Pinchon (Faune des Antilles Francaises, Les Oiseaux, Fort de France, 1963) notes that turnstones regularly arrive in Martinique from the North as early as the beginning of August and that these early arrivals are in both adult and immature plumages.

Assuming the bird was a breeding adult and based on the available information on turnstone distribution, I believe this bird probably traveled a minimum of 7,500 miles during the 98 days elapsing between banding and recovery, in addition to conducting its breeding functions.

I thank B. G. Murray, Jr., and my wife, Patricia, who pooled their knowledge of French to translate Dr. Pinchon's letter and the pertinent passages from his book.



TWO RECOVERIES FROM THE 1962 SANDY HOOK OPERATION RECOVERY PROJECT

By Robert C. Frohling

There have been two interesting recoveries resulting from the banding operation which was conducted at Sandy Hook, N. J., during September - October 1962 (Frohling, EBBA News, 27: 127-131, 1964).

A Catbird (#621-21235) banded on 29 September 1962 was trapped and released by L. B. George at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, on 28 March 1964.

An American Redstart (#102-59927) banded on 6 October 1962 as an immature male was collected as a scientific specimen by W. E. Godfrey on 17 June 1964 at Anticosti Island, Quebec, Canada.

Howell, Michigan