



## Atlantic Flyway Review

A REVIEW OF OPERATION RECOVERY AND RELATED SUBJECTS

Edited by Frederick S. Schaeffer



August marked the beginning of another Operation Recovery. Although it is slated to be the last government-sponsored O.R., it will definitely not be the last O.R. Most stations are going to continue, because Operation Recovery has become an autumn way-of-life to all its participants.

Chan Robbins has promised that most progress reports of the analyses in the offing, will be made available to Atlantic Flyway Review. AFR will also be more active in the O.R. coverage now and in the future than it has ever been before. EBBA now has the program under study and plans will eventually be formulated as to what EBBA can do with the present program.

I have not received any preliminary reports from O.R. banders, but Bob Yunick, EBBA's president, who runs an O.R. station at Vischer Ferry, N.Y. (near Schenectady) mentioned that he had the good fortune to net and band a Prothonotary Warbler on August 2 - how's that for an encouraging start?

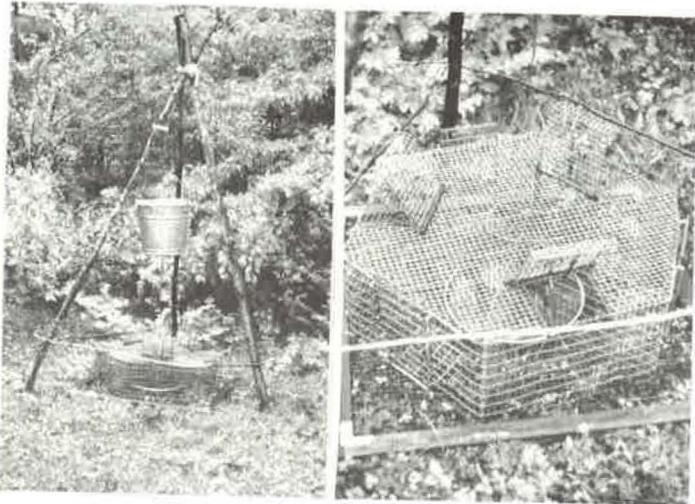
A spring Operation Recovery was held at Island Beach State Park, N.J., from March 22 to June 15 with Bruce Adams, the Corkrans, the Kennisons, Kit Price and the Prescotts. A final tabulation arrived just in time for inclusion in this issue:

A total of 3550 birds were banded in 5075 net-hours; of 103 species. Some interesting ones were: Saw-whet Owl (2) March 23-4; Red-bellied Woodpecker (3) April 26-7, May 30; Acadian Flycatcher (6); Prothonotary Warbler (1) May 5; Kentucky Warbler (1) May 17; Summer Tanager (1) May 25; Common Redpoll (1) March 23. The most numerous species was the Yellowthroat with 729; the busiest day was May 4 with 661 banded in 208 net-hours.

An excellent coverage was given to the 1968 invasion of Black-capped Chickadees, by Aaron M. Bagg of Dover, Mass. (an EBBA Life Member) in his lead article "The Changing Seasons", Audubon Field Notes, 23(1): 4-12. I highly recommend that all banders read this very detailed paper.

Betty Downs of South Londonderry, Vermont, writes (early August) that her traps are still inundated by the flood conditions in her area and that banding has come to a standstill after the recent heavy rainstorms. In June, I visited her to see the banding station she operates. You may recall that she is the only O.R. cooperator who uses traps and no nets at all. I simply could not understand, before this visit, how she could band 1291 birds during Operation Recovery using only traps, but now that I have seen

the very fine habitat of her property and the excellent type of water-drip traps she uses (see photographs below), I can fully understand.



Left: One of Betty Downs' water-drip traps. Pail is held by tripod fashioned of poplar branches.

Right: Close-up of hexagonal drip traps used in South Londonderry O.R. Every other wedge has a potter-trap door, alternated with a top-opening door.

Photos by F.S. Schaeffer

In the last issue, I asked for examples depicting "reverse migration trends". To my very great disappointment only two people have responded, one of whose reports is not really reverse migration but east-west movement, which is equally interesting. The lack of response is, in a way, understandable as we are all busy with Operation Recovery. Nevertheless, I hope you will respond with this type of information for use in future issues. Some of the recoveries may not in themselves be worthy of printing, but used in a group they can be very educational.

L.S. Ryan reports an Evening Grosbeak banded as AHY-F on Jan. 21, 1964 at Storrs, Connecticut. This bird was trapped and released on Dec. 18, 1968 two miles north of Little Falls, Minnesota, on the Mississippi River.

Mrs. James Stull reports an AHY-F Rose-breasted Grosbeak banded by D.J. Russell at Long Point, Ontario on May 9, 1963. Mrs. Stull caught the bird on May 10, 1963 at Presque Isle State Park, Erie, Pa. The distance covered is about 25 miles. Please note that this bird went south, but since this occurred in the spring migration it is "reverse migration". It is an interesting record because the bird had to cross Lake Erie to make this trip.

Due to lack of further data, I have looked up several records of my own station and that of Mr. LeRoy Wilcox of Speonk, N.Y.:

Myrtle Warbler: Banded 10-17-59 at Tiana Beach, Suffolk County, N.Y. Recovered November 1959 at Newfoundland, Canada.

Slate-colored Junco: Banded on 10-27-60 at Tiana Beach. Recovered on 12-17-60 at Arcadia, Massachusetts.

Slate-colored Junco: Banded on 10-28-63 at Tiana Beach. Recovered on 12-4-63 at Greenwich, Connecticut.

(The above Tiana Beach records were taken from Mr. Wilcox' paper: "Netting Birds on the South Shore of Long Island, Tiana Station 1958-64" The Kingbird, 15(4):205-215.)

Yellowthroat: Banded at the JFK Memorial Refuge near Massapequa, N.Y. on 8-20-66. Recovered 8-29-66 at East Norwalk, Conn. (found dead).

American Redstart: Banded at the JFK Refuge on 9-26-64. Recovered (dead) at East Cleveland, Ohio in the first week of October, 1964. See EBBA News 28(5):228 for my note on this bird.

From Mrs. Elise Lapham of New Canaan, Conn., we hear that she is going to try to continue the Block Island O.R. station (Elise Dickerson's station) in September and October. Mrs. Lapham has banded at the station for several years. We wish her great success.

One of our more distant EBBA members, Dr. & Mrs. Werner Keil of the Vogelschutzstation (bird protection station) für Hessen, Rheinland-Pfalz und Saarland, of Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, will visit the United States and Canada in late August through September. Dr. Keil taught me the ropes of bird banding when I was with the armed forces in Germany in 1962-3, and I will have the opportunity to meet him again when he arrives in New York. Dr. Keil, who has a good command of English, is an avid reader of EBBA News!

Members of the Manomet Bird Observatory recently received the first issue of Manomet's new publication, The Observer. It certainly looks as if Manomet has great plans and we hope they may be successful. Volunteer banders and helpers are sorely needed. Those interested should contact Mrs. Kathleen Anderson, Box 0, Manomet, Mass. 02345.

On June 25, 1969, I sent a "Memo to all station leaders" in Flyway 1, asking for background information on ecology of your station, use of nets and what studies are now in progress or being planned. Out of 30 possible replies, I have received only five. This data is extremely important, as it will help determine future involvement of Atlantic Flyway Review in Operation Recovery. If you have not replied yet, please do so as soon as you can. Thank you!

As you know, each August, Chan Robbins sends a tabulation of the previous season's results to each station leader. With a total of 46 stations in 1968, 33 of which are in Flyway 1, 8 in Flyway 2 and 5 in Flyway 3, the list becomes longer each year. The list shows totals, net hours,

birds measured and weighed for each station; however, for our purposes, I'll just give the total new birds banded:

ONTARIO	Bradley's Marsh*	Miss Mary J. Wolcott	1826
SASKATCHEWAN	Saskatoon	Dr. Stuart Houston	445
MAINE	Mount Desert Island*	Mrs. Robert Patterson	1064
VERMONT	So. Londonderry*	Mrs. James R. Downs	1291
	Marshfield	Mrs. Glen Metcalf	1003
MASSACHUSETTS	Nantucket*	Mrs. Edith Andrews	1958
	Siasconset*	Mrs. Roy Larsen	412
	East Chop*	Miss Grace C. Meleney	281
	Monomoy	James Baird	319
	Littleton*	James Baird	830
RHODE ISLAND	Kingston	Douglas L. Kraus	1001
	Block Island*	Mrs. Elise Dickerson (Mrs. David Lapham)	5806
NEW YORK	Vischer Ferry*	Dr. Robert P. Yunick	1607
	Manorville*	Gilbert S. Raynor	899
	Brookhaven*	Gilbert S. Raynor (Dennis Puleston)	2478
	JFK Wildlife Refuge*	F.S. Schaeffer	3066
	Atlantic Beach*	Richard Cohen	2208
	Bedford Hills	P. David Junkin	535
NEW JERSEY	Sandy Hook State Park*	Richard C. Rosche	891
	Island Beach St. Park*	Mrs. Mabel Warburton	26,988
	Cape May Point*	J. George Hitchner	2787
PENNSYLVANIA	Elverson*	Joseph M. Cadbury	252
	Presque Isle St. Park*	Ronald F. Leberman	1150
MARYLAND	Monkton*	Stephen W. Simon	352
	Chestertown*	Mrs. Edward Mendinhall	7034
	St. Michaels*	Jan Reese	401
	Ocean City*	Mrs. Richard D. Cole	10,390
	Rock Run	C. Douglas Hackman	107
VIRGINIA	Kiptopeke Beach*	C. Hacker, F. Scott	12,202
WEST VIRGINIA	Allegheny Front*	George Hall, Ralph Bell	1125
TENNESSEE	Basin Spring	Dr. Katherine Goodpasture	613

ALABAMA	Sanford Univ. area	M.L. Bierly	667
FLORIDA	Homestead*	Mrs. Bradley Fisk	1049
	Loxahatchee	Paul W. Sykes, Jr.	629
MICHIGAN	Tawas Point	Dr. Frank O. Novy	2429
	Grand Beach	James B. Fleugel	757
WISCONSIN	Toland Pk. (Dodge City)	Edward Peartree	71
	Honey Creek (Sauk City)	"-	121
	Ken's Woods (Jefferson)	"-	185
	Wautoma	Mrs. M. Chipman	335
COLORADO	Longmont	Mrs. Carl Collister	2268
NEW MEXICO	Cedar Crest	Mrs. Daniel M. McKnight	307
KANSAS	Hays	Charles A. Ely	382
	Udall	Max C. Thompson	647
(Omitted from above list; apparently not submitted to Chan Robbins):-			
NEW YORK	Tiana Beach	Leroy Wilcox (fide T.H.Davis)	2072
	East Moriches	"-"	550
TOTAL:-			103,790

(\* ) covered in this column, by station reports, in the first three issues of EBBA News for this year.

Next Issue: Please submit additional recoveries depicting reverse migration...and any other interesting recoveries. Also - a short review will be made of a new format for O.R. station reports.

#### Atlantic Flyway Recovery Report

- (Rc) Slate-colored Junco, 567; HY-U 117-02115. Thomas H. Davis, Jr. 10-30-67 - JFK Wildlife Refuge, Nassau County, N.Y.  
01-09-69 - Delaware Water Gap, Monroe County, Pa. (killed by striking a window).
- (Rt) Cardinal, 593; AHY-M 60-191810. Mrs. James Stull.  
05-27-61 - Waterford, Erie County, Pa.  
06-25-69 - Same place: killed by a car. Age: At least 8 years.
- (Rt) Downy Woodpecker, 394; AHY-M 30-101635. Mrs. James Stull.  
07-09-61 - Waterford, Pa.  
07-15-69 - date last trapped: has returned each year.

6. (Rt) Catbird, 704; U-U 62-179317. Mrs. James Stull.  
 08-02-62 - Waterford, Pa.  
 06-16-69 - date last trapped; returned 1963, 1966, 1967 & 1969.

To stimulate more interest in this department, I am going to include names of banders as above, from this point forward. To recapitulate, in the last issue recoveries 1 and 2 were included: banded by F.S. Schaeffer and T.H. Davis, Jr., respectively.

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#### FOREIGN RECOVERY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

We have had the best response ever - six replies from banders who recognized their numbers in this column. These follow:

Bluejay 763-40815: banded 2-5-68 by Stuart S. Wilson Jr. at Koo Koose Farm, Deposit, N.Y.; recovered by Dr. Robert P. Yunick 5-19-69 at Schenectady, N.Y. This bird was also color-banded - red over white stripe on one leg.

Pine Siskin 112-67358: banded 1-11-69 by Glenn Austin, a sub-permittee of Vernon M. Kleen, at Laurel, Md.; recovered by Mrs. Wayne Chapman 5-12-69 at Lincolnville, Maine.

Evening Grosbeak 68-137941: banded 11-27-68 by Ruth A. Løf at Storrs, Conn.; recovered by Bob Yunick (AHY-F) 5-6-69 at Schenectady.

Evening Grosbeak 73-191386: banded 3-2-69 by Dr. Mitchell A. Byrd (AHY-M) near Williamsburg, York County, Va.; recovered by Bob Yunick on 5-15-69 at Schenectady.

Evening Grosbeak 70-195491: banded 2-5-69 by Dorothy Bordner at State College, Pa.; recovered by Bob Yunick 5-3-69 at Schenectady (AHY-F).

Evening Grosbeak 66-122059: banded 2-11-64 by Dorothy Bordner; recovered by F.L. Lowden (ASY-M) 1-11-69 at Mill Run, Pa. - an old one!

Newly reported:	Common Grackle 693-59708	Evening Grosbeak 562-66723
	Yellowthroat 113-05719	Evening Grosbeak 64-139013
	Yellowthroat 113-05775	