

REGROWTH OF BROKEN UPPER MANDIBLE OF A FEMALE DOWNY WOODPECKER

By Ernie Hoover

On 31 May 1971, while examining a female Downy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos pubescens*), originally banded at my station on 20 July 1968 (Band No. 107-165506) I noticed that the upper mandible was partly broken off and the exposed culmen of the remaining section measured 9 mm. Checking back on my notes, I found that I had trapped this bird previously on 25 April 1971. At that time, the upper mandible was normal, so the break must have occurred after this date. On 13 June 1971, I retrapped this bird again. The upper mandible was beginning to heal. It measured 10mm and had a stub-like appearance.

Subsequently, I retrapped this bird on 19 June when the upper mandible measured 14mm, and on 17 July, it measured 16mm. On 7 August, there was a change in the direction of growth; the upper mandible now curved to the left from the point of the original break. The curved portion measured 7mm, the whole bill was 16mm long.

On 23 August, the bill still curved to the left; however, the left side of the bill from the original break point was broken off, leaving only the right side of the bill intact. The tip of the remaining part of the bill was normal on this date and did not have the stub-like appearance it had during the healing process. At this point, the upper mandible measured 19mm and the length of the lower mandible was 16mm.

I do not know what caused this deformity in the bill. Apparently the bird was able to live with this condition during the time it came to feed at my feeder. Further investigation will be needed to determine if the bird is able to survive the winter.

--1044 Webster St., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

RECOVERY REPORT and FOREIGN RETRAP EXCHANGE

In order to conserve space and make the recovery listings more readable, we have adopted the internationally used symbols. This clarification will be repeated annually.

Symbols used

- | | |
|--|---|
| o banded in nest (adult or local) | ? manner of recovery unknown |
| * trapped and banded | c (new symbol)- recovery was verified with Banding Lab. |
| + found dead, or killed/shot by man | (also, age class codes used, as specified in MTAB - 7) |
| () caught, band removed, and released | |
| V caught and released (with band) | |

Recovery Report and Foreign Retrap Exchange... continued.White-throated Sparrow -(Zonotrichia albicollis)

30-140418

- * U-U 05 Nov 63, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
+ 07 Jul 70, Univ. of Montreal, Daaquam, Quebec, Canada

House Finch -(Carpodacus mexicanus)

113-04155

- * U-M 15 Mar 67, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
V 26 Mar 68, Atlantic Beach, N.Y., J. Richard Cohen

113-04156

- * U-U 15 Mar 67, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
V 03 Apr 67, Atlantic Beach, N.Y., J. Richard Cohen

750-06288

- * HY-U 02 Aug 67, Atlantic Beach, N.Y., J. Richard Cohen
V 18 Mar 68, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast

113-04261

- * U-U 19 Mar 68, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
+ 27 Mar 68, Ridgewood, N.J., Mrs. E. G. McEntee

Evening Grosbeak -(Hesperiphona vespertina)

59-139928

- * U-F 03 Jan 62, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
V 08 Apr 62, Fairfax, Va. (5 miles), Mrs. E. Peacock
V 13 Jan 64, Elkins, W. Va., V. L. Wylie
V 15 Jan 69, Federalsburg, Md., V. E. Unger

61-125145

- * U-F 29 Mar 62, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
V 21 Mar 70, Raleigh, N.C., William Post

62-189796

- * U-M 04 Feb 64, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
+ 26 Feb 70, Chesapeake, Va., R. Smithson

66-137269

- * U-M 21 Apr 64, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
V 29 Mar 70, Quebec City, Que. (Canada), Benoit Asselin

Purple Finch -(Carpodacus purpureus)

63-93248

- * U-U 14 Apr 62, Arlington, Va., Arthur H. Fast
+ 12 May 69, Rockingham, Ont. (Canada), J. C. Rahutsan

Please send recoveries or foreign retraps you wish to be published to:
Harvey Farber, Co-Editor, 112-50 78th Avenue, Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375

EBBA NEWS PHOTO CONTEST

On page 75, all of you will marvel at the magnificent photo of a female Osprey, feeding her young. The photo, one of the 37 photos we received as entries in our photo contest, was made by Mr. Gil Fernandez of Dartmouth, Mass. Our judges, Emil Berger, Don Heintzelman and Fred Schaeffer, unanimously selected this photo as the winner of the contest. To Mr. Fernandez goes \$25.00 worth of cash, nets or traps (selection by Mr. Fernandez still to be made as this issue goes to press). On behalf of the EBBA Contest judges, I congratulate you.

Three photos were selected for publication in later issues of the News. Honorable Mentions in this contest were: Mrs. Roger W. Foy, Mrs. Valerie M. Freer and Mr. Ken Prytherch. Mrs. Foy's photo was of a Killdeer near its nest; Mrs. Freer's was a Barred Owl looking himself in a mirror with grave interest, and Mr. Prytherch's photo was one depicting many Gannets on their nesting ground. All three will be published in our August issue.

The other 33 photos taken by about 12 very able photographers will be used as the need arises. Nevertheless, we thank all of you for your enthusiastic participation in the contest.

* * *

ANOTHER RETURN OF A TRANSIENT SONGBIRD by Paul W. Woodward

It is now well established that most songbirds return year after year to the same breeding and/or wintering areas. More rarely they return to the same area during migration. In a survey of this latter phenomenon Nisbet (EBBA NEWS 33: 269-274) lists only 8 definite records and 9 doubtful ones. Ryan (EBBA NEWS 33: 35-36) recorded an additional 3 records (one definite and two doubtful). To these records I add the following one: an adult Northern Waterthrush banded on 18 May 1970 at McKee-Beeshers Wildlife Management Area, Maryland, and recaptured there on 15 May 1971 in the same net lane, consisting of three 12 m. long nets.

McKee-Beeshers Wildlife Management Area, better known as Hughes Hollow, is located along the Potomac River about 26 miles upstream from Washington, D. C. Northern Waterthrushes neither winter nor breed in the Maryland Piedmont Region (Stewart, R.E., and C. S. Robbins, 1958. Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia); thus this bird was definitely a migrant.

This is the first definite record of a returning songbird migrant in spring, which is not surprising since most migrants are banded in the fall. In two other respects, however, this record agrees with the others: it was a warbler and the dates of capture and recapture are similar.