

Swallows (*Tachycineta thalassina*), 3 Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*), 3 Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*), and 3 Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*). One of the Barn Swallows proved to be a foreign recovery, having been banded in Northern California in the spring of 1966 by Alan Craig. Also, one of the swifts was found to have a cactus spine stuck in its breast, perhaps a result of a collision during a low level foraging flight (Collins, M.S.). This "flip netting" technique was employed with equal effectiveness on several other days when the birds were again foraging in a suitable manner; a total of 37 swifts and 31 swallows were captured. None of those captured in this manner were likely to have been taken in any of the regularly set vertical mist nets. Also, despite the seeming violence of this technique none of the birds captured showed any signs of injury.

This "flip netting" technique is easy to use and could, I believe, be utilized by other banders in situations where these or other species of birds are flying low over open ground where fixed nets would be readily seen and avoided. Besides being an exciting alternative to long hours of net watching, it may open the doors to the study of additional species otherwise ignored due to difficulties encountered in capturing them.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Collins, C. T. and R. A. Bradley  
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#### 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.

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#### 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)
- \* trapped and banded
- + found dead, or killed/shot by man
- () caught, band removed, and released
- V caught and released (with band)

- ? manner of recovery unknown
- c (new symbol)- recovery was verified with Banding Lab.
- (also, age class codes used, as specified in MTAB - 7)