

SOME RESULTS OF BIRD BANDING IN 1928

WITH FIVE ILLUSTRATIONS

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Bird banding as a method of bird study shows a steady growth in the West, both in the number of persons operating trapping stations and in the number and variety of birds banded. The purpose of this article is to show, by means of charts, some of the results obtained during 1928 as shown by reports made to the Western Bird Banding Association.

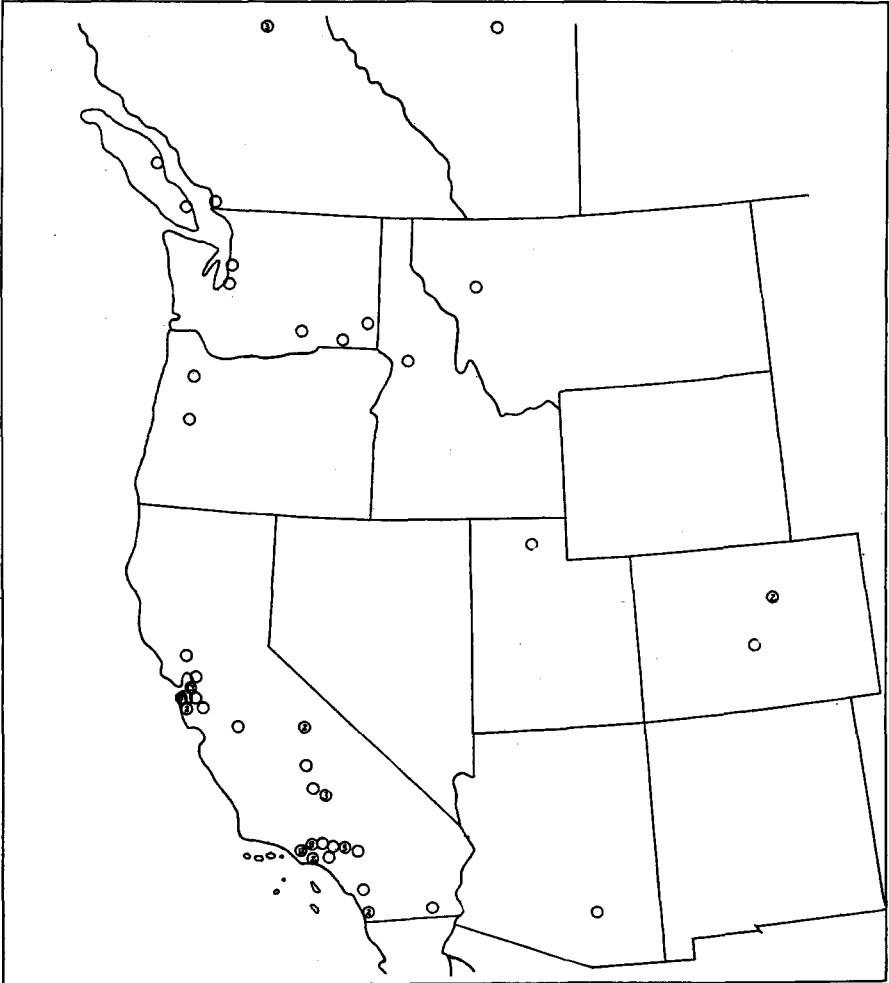


Fig. 70. LOCATIONS OF BIRD BANDERS IN WESTERN UNITED STATES, AS KNOWN TO BE ACTIVE DURING 1928.

Bird banders frequently wonder why they do not get greater results, why they do not get more returns of their birds from distant stations, and why they do not frequently capture birds that have been banded by some one far away. A glance at figure 70 will show how widely scattered the active banding stations are and what an element of chance must enter in, where the vast area, the scarcity of trapping

stations, and the relatively small number of birds banded are all factors against the frequent occurrence of distant returns. This chart shows bird banders who were active during 1928 as follows: Alberta, Camrose one; British Columbia, Barkerville three, Courtenay one, Duncan one, and Vancouver one; Washington, Seattle one, Tacoma one, Sunnyside one, College Place one, and Pullman one; Oregon, Salem

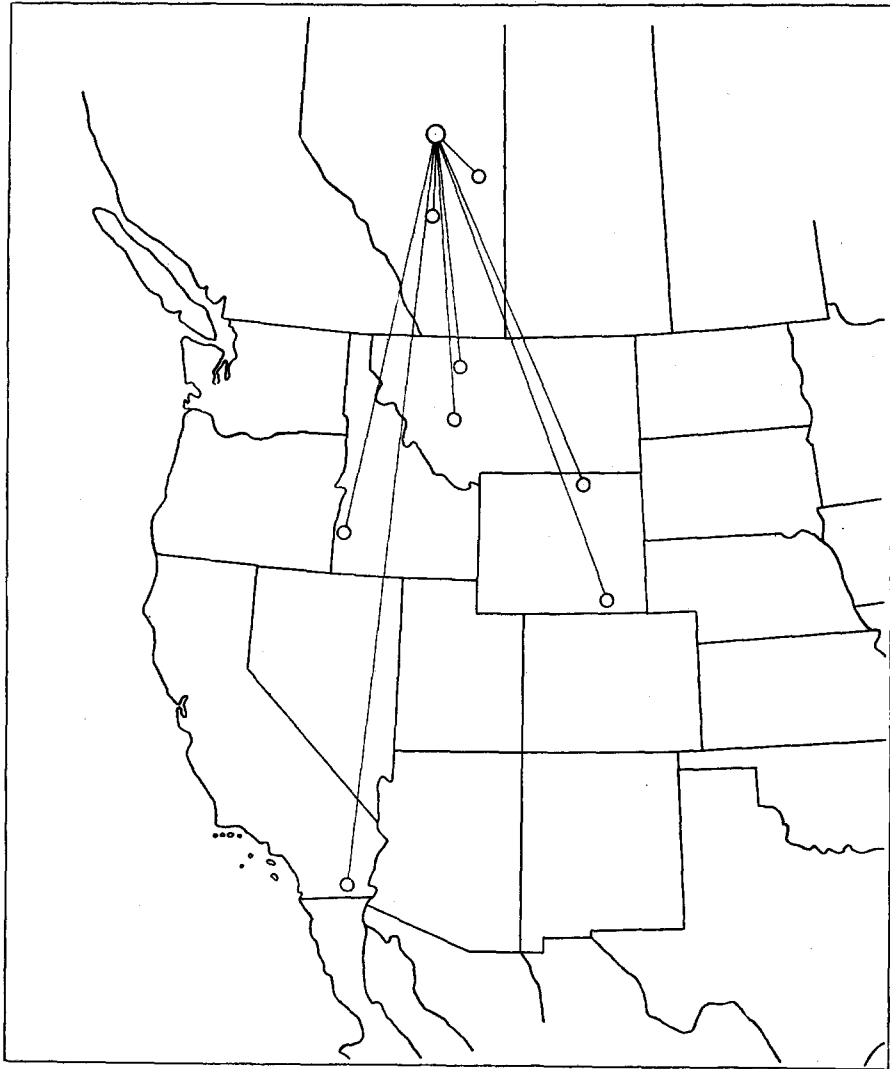


Fig. 71. FURTHER RETURNS OF GULLS Banded NEAR CAMROSE, ALBERTA, IN JUNE, 1927.

one, and Eugene one; Idaho, Grangeville one; Montana, Moiese one; Utah, Brigham one; Colorado, Denver two, and Calcite one; Arizona, Oracle one; California, Yountville one, Benicia one, Berkeley three, Oakland one, Warm Springs one, San Francisco three, Stanford University two, Los Banos one, Big Creek two, Porterville one, Delano one, Bakersfield three, Los Angeles twelve, Pasadena eight, Glendora one,

La Verne one, Claremont three, Redlands one, Pomona one, Buena Park two, Escondido one, San Diego two, and Imperial one. Some banding was done at places not shown here: the San Bernardino Mountains, Mono Lake region, Marin County, Davis and Chico in California, in southern Arizona, and in Alberta.

Of the seventy-four banders here indicated, sixty-six report 23,091 birds, of 164

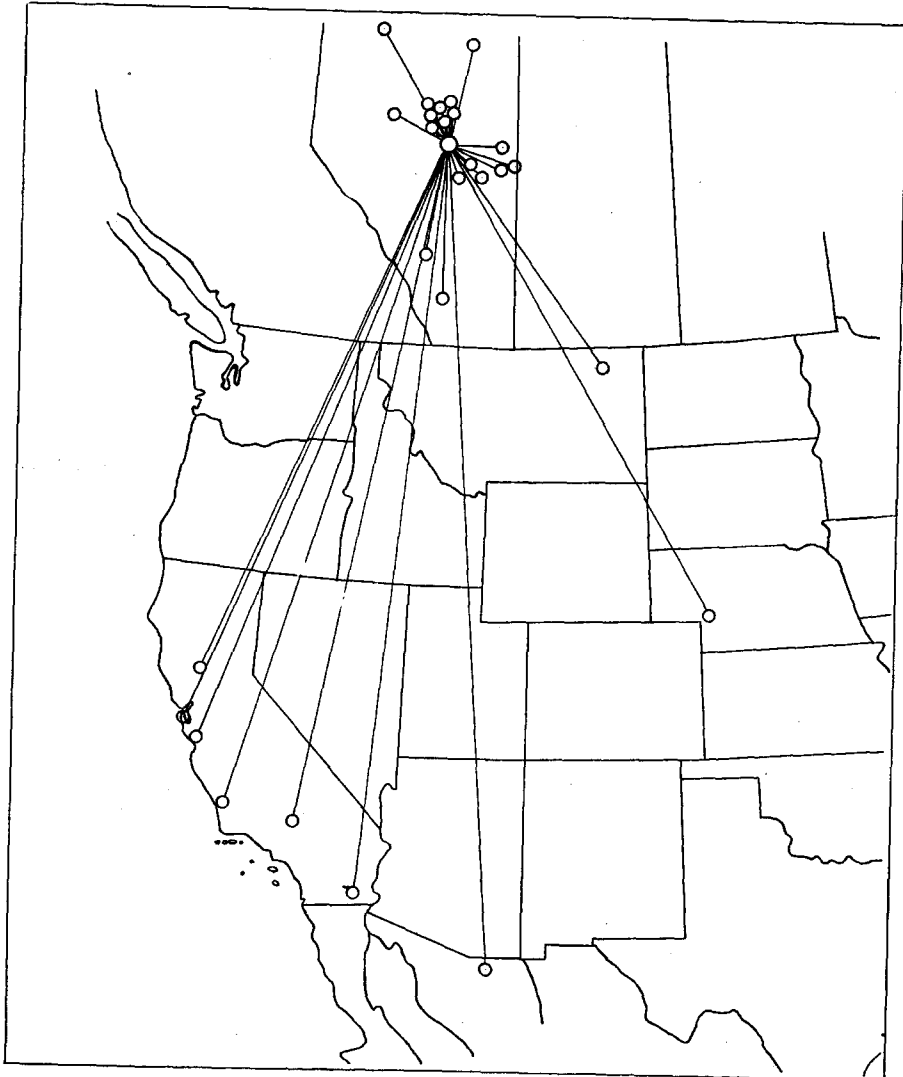


Fig. 72. RETURNS OF GULLS BANDED NEAR CAMROSE, ALBERTA, IN JUNE, 1928.

species or subspecies, banded during 1928. The species or subspecies rank as follows: Mallard 7493, Linnet 3249, Pine Siskin 2159, Gambel Sparrow 2017, Pintail 1241, Golden-crowned Sparrow 854, Shufeldt Junco 658, Nuttall Sparrow including *Zonotrichia leucophrys pugetensis* 640, all the others falling below 500 individuals banded. The banders rank as follows: Frank H. Rose 7466, T. T. McCabe 3624, the Micheners 3335, Ernest D. Clabaugh 889, Joseph Mailliard 647, E. W. Ehman

636, Wright M. Pierce 530, Arnold and Ainsworth for the California Division of Fish and Game 503, all the others falling below 500 birds banded.

In *The Condor* (xxx, 1928, p. 354) appears a chart showing returns of California and Ring-billed gulls banded by Frank L. Farley at Bittern Lake, near Camrose, Alberta, in June, 1927. Two additional records have come to light since that chart was published: One bird at Lesser Slave Lake, Alberta, August 14, 1927,

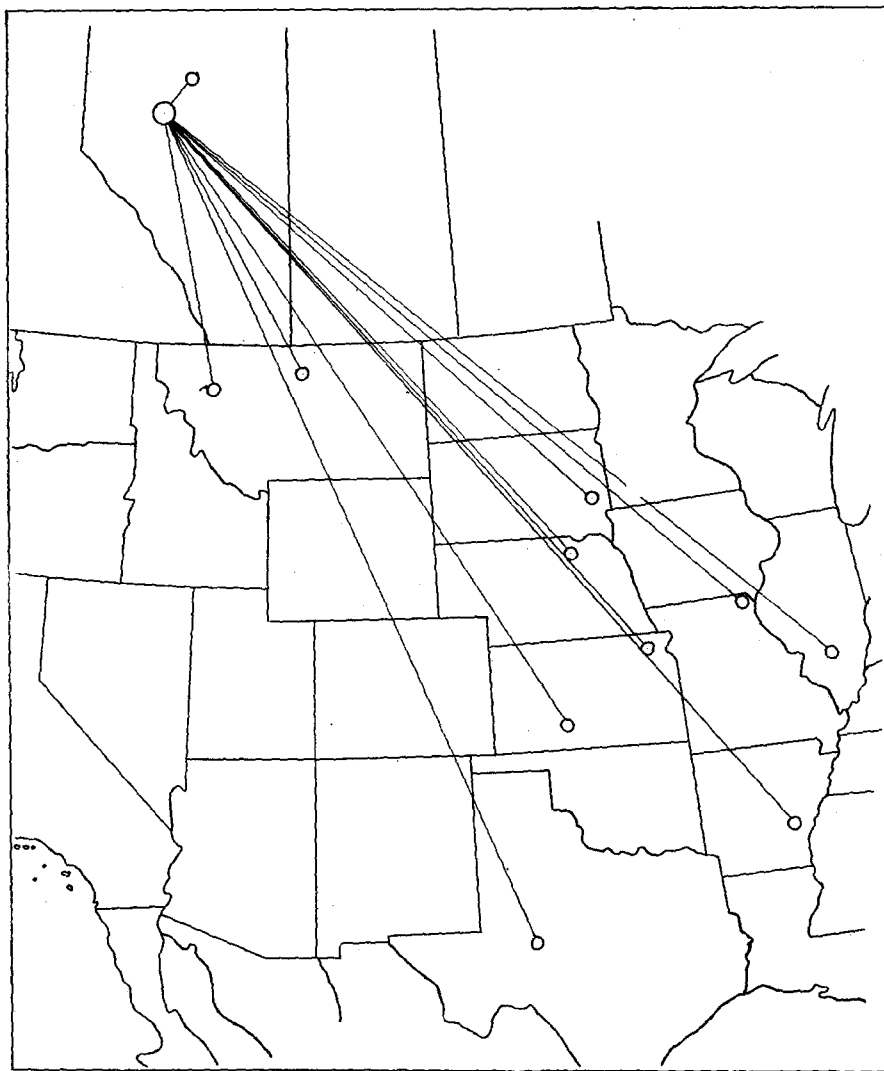


Fig. 73. RETURNS OF MALLARDS BANDED AT LAC STE. ANN, ALBERTA, IN 1928.

and one bird at Mexicali, Lower California, November 14, 1927. The records of eight more birds of this group are now available and are shown in figure 71. Mr. Farley states that no banded birds were seen at the breeding colony while banding was being done in June, 1928, and it was hoped that some of the returns would show where these birds were during the nesting time of the adults. However, no

definite light has been thrown on this question. The returns shown here are: El Centro, California, April 6, 1928; Redland, Alberta, July 4; Wilson Lake, Idaho, July 19; Laramie, Wyoming, October 15; Fairfield, Montana, October 24; Sheridan, Wyoming, October 27; Lake Helena, Montana, November 19; and Czar, Alberta, December 3, 1928.

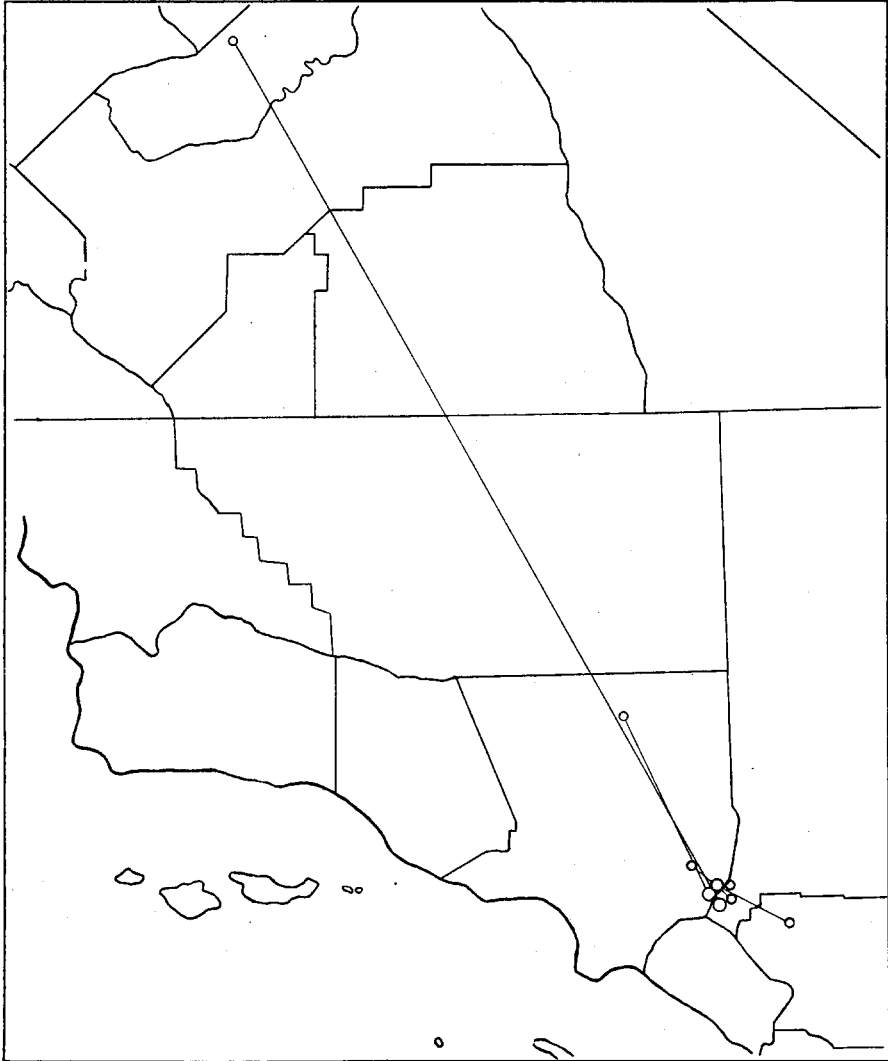


Fig. 74. RETURNS OF HAWKS AND OWLS BANDED BY E. L. SUMNER, JR., IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

From birds banded in the same breeding colony in 1928, Mr. Farley has forty-one returns which are shown in figure 72, as follows: Edmonton, Alberta, July 30, August 6, 7, September 2 two birds, 7, 15; Cooking Lake, Alberta, July 31; Lac Ste. Ann, Alberta, August 8, September 15; Claresholm, Alberta, August 12; Lac La Biche, Alberta, August 14; Clover Bar, Alberta, August 15; Cadogan, Alberta,

August 15; Lesser Slave Lake, Alberta, August 19 two birds, 31, September 15; Tofield, Alberta, August 20; Big Valley, Alberta, August 21; Castor, Alberta, August 25; Lancaster, California, September 1; Consort, Alberta, September 12; Calgary, Alberta, September 15, 16, 20; Lake Wabumum, Alberta, September 15; Camrose, Alberta, September 15; Waskatenaw, Alberta, September 16; Hayter, Alberta, September 22; Edgerton, Alberta, September 26; Kaleland, Alberta, October 3; Ogallala, Nebraska, October 17; Frazer, Montana, October 21; Cananea, Sonora, October 21; Watsonville, California, November 4; Brawley, California, December 8; Colusa, California, December 30; San Francisco, California, January 6, 1929; and San Luis Obispo, California, February 22, 1929. The wide dispersal of these birds during the fall migration, as shown by the report of birds from northern Montana and from below the Mexican border on the same day, and the fact that so many of these birds are killed, are points worthy of note.

The chart of returns of Mallards banded by Frank H. Rose, at Moiese, Montana, in the fall of 1927, published in *The Condor* (xxx, 1928, p. 321), shows a very definite southwesterly movement from that area. In contrast, figure 73 shows returns of Mallards banded during the summer of 1928, by Paul E. Page, at Lac Ste. Ann, Alberta, about 450 miles north of Moiese. These returns are: Westlock, Alberta, September 29; Vandalia, Illinois, October 25; one trapped by Rose at Moiese, Montana, November 1; Eagleton, Montana, November 2; Wayland, Missouri, November 2; Jackson County, Kansas, November 4; Pratt, Kansas, November 5; De Witt, Arkansas, November 11; Wentworth, South Dakota, November 14; Orchard, Nebraska, December 28; and San Angelo, Texas, January 29, 1929.

Figure 74 shows some returns of birds banded by E. L. Sumner, Jr. Nestling Barn Owl no. 237546 banded in Ganesha Park, Pomona, California, April 16, 1925, was taken at Arlington, California, July 2, 1925, a distance of about twenty miles. Nestling Barn Owl no. 367174 banded in the Congregational Church, Pomona, California, May 14, 1925, was shot at Covina, California, September 19, 1925, a distance of about eight miles. Nestling Barn Owl no. 336936 banded in the San Antonio Wash, near Pomona, California, April 8, 1926, was shot at Ontario, California, October 19, 1926, a distance of about five miles; and no. 336937, one of the same brood, was captured and the band removed at Chino, California, in August, 1926, a distance of about five miles. Nestling Barn Owl no. 233520 banded at Chino, California, May 24, 1925, was shot at Chino, February 13, 1926.

Nestling Long-eared Owl no. 543281 banded April 10, 1928, at Rancho de los Tres Hermanos, in the Puente Hills of southeastern Los Angeles County, was taken four miles from Lancaster, California, between December 29, 1928, and January 3, 1929, a distance of about fifty miles.

Nestling Red-tailed Hawk no. 320774 banded in Carbon Canyon, southwestern San Bernardino County, May 4, 1928, was caught in a coyote trap six and one-half miles northwest of Raymond, Madera County, California, July 5, 1928, a distance of about 250 miles.

Buena Park, California, July 21, 1929.