The Laughing Gull reported herein was banded during a study funded by the New Jersey State Mosquito Control Commission.—THOMAS C. TELFER, State of Hawaii, Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Wildlife, P.O. Box 1671, Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766, AND JOSEPH K. SHISLER, Mosquito Control, Cook College, Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. Received 1 Apr. 1981; accepted 17 Aug. 1981.

A New Longevity Record for the Ruffed Grouse.—A banded female Ruffed Grouse (Bonasa umbellus monticola) shot on 31 December 1979, in Perry County, Indiana was banded as an adult on 30 September 1972 in Brown County, Indiana. She had been one of 35 birds transported 170 km S to Perry County in the fall of 1972. This grouse was at least 16 months old when banded, and at least 103 months old when shot. To our knowledge, this is a new longevity record for a Wild Ruffed Grouse.

Bump et al. (The Ruffed Grouse, Life History—Propagation—Management. The Holling Press, Inc. Buffalo, N.Y., 1947:360) reported the average adult wild Ruffed Grouse seldom lives beyond 3 years. Gullion (Loon 38:132, 1966) reported a 94-month-old wild male (*B. u. togata* or *B. u. mediana*) in Minnesota and a 91-month-old wild female (*B. u. monticola*) was reported in Ohio (Stoll and Davis, Bird-Banding 45:270–271, 1974).

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A Technique for Distinguishing the Age Classes of Adult Bank Swallows.—As part of a long-term study of Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia*) in the Ellenville, New York area, we became interested in finding a means for distinguishing age groups of the adult birds. All adult Bank Swallows appear superficially alike and have previously been recorded as AHY (after-hatching-year) birds. Because of the widespread interest in population studies of this species in North America and in Europe, we knew that a way to distinguish secondyear birds from older birds would be of value.

We examined plumage characteristics in newly captured and returning (previously banded) Bank Swallows. The extent of wear on the inner primaries was found to be a useful characteristic. When this was combined with the degree of skull pneumatization, we could accurately identify some birds as second-year (SY) birds and others as aftersecond-year (ASY) birds. Although this combination of traits places only about 30% of the adult birds in these 2 age classes, we describe it here because we believe it can be of use to other banders.

Inner primary wear.—In most swallows, there is a single molt that takes place after the fall migration (Roberts, A Manual for the Identification of the Birds of Minnesota and Neighboring States. Univ. of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1955). However, in Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) the postnuptial primary molt of adults is often interrupted by the fall migration (Niles, Condor 74:61–71, 1972) and Mead (Bird Study 27:51–53, 1980) found the same to be true for small numbers of adult Sand Martins (also *Riparia riparia*) captured at early fall roots in England. In both species a few of the inner primaries are molted while the birds are near their breeding grounds; molt ceases during migration, and the remaining primaries are molted on the wintering grounds. Juvenile Purple Martins, and presumably juvenile Bank Swallows, undergo their first primary molt in the spring just prior to their first northward migration.

Close examination of the primaries of our Bank Swallows at their breeding colonies suggests that they have a similar molt schedule. Some birds known to be at least thirdyear birds from banding, show 2 to 4 very worn inner primaries and unworn outer primaries. The contrast in wear in the 2 groups of primaries suggests that the postnuptial