

Request for information: Color-marked Common Terns

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Region is continuing its program of color-marking Common Terns at two colonies in the lower Great Lakes to determine their post-breeding dispersal, migration routes and winter range.

In 1981, adults were marked with orange wing-tags and chicks with pink tags. Tags were put on both wings of all birds. All tags had combinations of letters and numbers (the two tags on any bird each had the same combination). In addition, all birds received a metal legband on one leg and a plastic legband (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) on the other leg.

In 1982, many of the adult tagged birds returned to their colonies still carrying their tags. The tagged birds appeared fit and nested normally. Most tags were still clearly legible and showed little wear. In 1982, bright blue wing tags (with black lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and black tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks just prior to fledging.

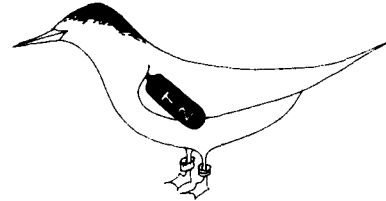
In 1983, many terns tagged in 1981 and 1982 were back at their colonies. In that year, red wing tags (with yellow lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and green tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks.

When you observe a tagged tern, would you please report the date, location, color of the tag and, if possible, the number/letter combination to: *Banding Office, Canadian Wildlife Service, Headquarters, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0E7*. All reports will be acknowledged.

Request for assistance

Adult and nestling Turkey Vultures in Wisconsin are being marked with green patagial wing tags during 1983 and 1984, as part of a study of nest and roost fidelity, feeding ranges, and migration. Tags are encoded with a small "U" and large white numerals, 1-99.

If marked vultures are sighted, please report date, location, tag number, whether tag is on right or left wing, and other pertinent observations to the Bird Banding Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, MD 20811, and to Madison Audubon Society, Rt. 1, Box 128A, Arlington, WI 53911.



Significant encounters

House Finch. 840-49363. Banded as HY-U by Tom Mutchler in Bethlehem, PA on 24 July 1973. Found dead 8 km (5 mi) NE (also Bethlehem, PA) 17 June 1983. A female at least 10 years old.

Goshawk. 816-02122. Banded as HY-M by Len Soucy at the Kittatinny Mountains Raptor Banding Station, Sussex County, NJ on 22 November 1972. Found dead at Magagudavic Lake, New Brunswick, Canada, 9 April 1983. 10 years, 4 months old.

North American Loon Fund Grants

The North American Loon Fund (NALF) announces the availability of two grant programs for support of new or current research, management, or education projects that may yield useful information for Common Loon Conservation in North America.

The first of these programs, the Robert J. Lurtsema Research Award, consists of a \$1,000 stipend available annually for a suitable research project focused on a member of the Family Gaviidae. Preference will be given to students and independent researchers with limited availability of other funding.

The second program offers modest grants in support of research, management, or educational projects directly related to the conservation of Common Loons as a breeding species. Proposals in the range of \$500 to \$3,000 are most likely to be considered for funding.

Further guidelines for prospective applicants are available upon request from the NALF Grants Committee. Deadline for submission of proposals is January 31, 1984. Funding awards will be announced by March 15th.

Please submit guideline request to: North American Loon Fund Grants Committee, North American Loon Fund, Meredith, NH 03253