Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

CFNS member for 21 years wins 21st annual FAN award. H. R. Gardner. 1996. *Pica* 16(4):33. R.R. 1, Nanton, Alta. T0L 1R0 (Brief biography of Calgary bluebird trail co-ordinator and bander Donald J. Stiles.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

A leg-noose for capturing adult kittiwakes at the nest. J. Benson and R. M. Suryan. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:393-399. U.S.F.W.S., 1011 E. Tudor Rd., Anchorage, AK 99503 (The noose was attached to a base which was attached to the nest. This device enabled capture and recapture of specific individuals.) RCT

Negative effects of patagial tags on Ruddy Ducks. R. B. Brua. 1998. *J. Field Ornithol.* 69:530-535. Dept. Biol., Univ. Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469-2320 (The author suggests patagial tags not be used on Ruddy Ducks or other diving ducks.) RCT

Fading of numbers from patagial tags: a potential problem for long-term studies of vultures. N. J. Buckley. 1998. *J. Field Ornithol.* 69:536-539. Dept. Biol., Univ. Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 (In 25% of resighted Turkey Vultures marked with cattle ear tags, the numbers were partially or completely illegible after less than three years.) RCT

Migratory bird habitat use in southern Mexico: mist nets versus point counts. J. H. Rappole, K. Winker and G. V. N. Powell. 1998. *J. Field Ornithol.* 69:635-643. Conservation and Res. Cent., Natl. Zoo, Front Royal, VA 22630 (The methods are complementary and should be used in combination.) RCT

A remotely operated trap for American Kestrels using nest boxes. L. Price and T. G. Balgooyeen. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:158-162. Dept. Biol. Sci., San Jose State Univ., One Washington Sq., San Jose, CA 95192 (The commercially available trap is radio-controlled.) RCT

The influence of audio-lures on capture patterns of migrant Northern Saw-whet Owls. D. M. Whalen and B. D. Watts. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:163-168. Cent. for Conserv. Biol., College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23187 (Most captures of unbanded owls occurred within 12 m of the sound source, but recaptures occurred over a wider area.) RCT

Methods for live-trapping Houbara Bustards. P. J. Seddon, F. Launay, Y. van Heezik and M. Al Bowardi. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:169-181. Natl. Wildl. Res. Cent., Box 1086, Taif, Saudi Arabia (Methods are discussed and evaluated for different situations.) RCT

Ultraviolet reflectance of colored plastic leg bands. K. J. McGraw, G. E. Hill and A. J. Keyser. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:236-243. Dept. Zool. & Wildl. Sci., 331 Funchess Hall, Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL 36849 (UV reflectance of colored leg bands does not differ from background levels.) RCT

A trough-blind for capturing cranes. M. J. Folk, J. A. Schmidt and S. A. Nesbitt. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:251-256. Florida G & F.W.F. Commission, 1475 Regal Ct., Kissimmee, FL 34744 (A blind resembling a cattle feed trough attracts cranes and enables a person inside to grab the crane.) RCT

A trap designed for capturing individual birds at the nest. D. W. Mock, P. L. Schwagmeyer and G. I. Gieg. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:276-282. Dept. Zool., Univ. Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 (The traps can be used to catch a variety of sizes of nesting birds.) RCT

Decoy trap bias and effect of markers on reproduction of Northern Pintails. K. L. Guyn and R. G. Clark. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 504-513. Dept. Biol., Univ. Saskatchewan, 112 Science Pl., Saskatoon, Sask. S7M 5E2 (Results suggest that the combination of decoy trapping and radio-marking may affect some aspects of pintail reproduction negatively.) RCT

Foot losses of metal banded Snowy Plovers. J. A. Amat. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:555-557. Estacion Biologia de Donana, C.S.I.C., Apdo. 1056, E-41080, Sevilla, Spain (Incidence of leg injury, especially foot loss, was three times the rate in unbanded birds. All foot losses were in birds banded on the tarsus. The author recommends that shorebirds not be banded on the tarsus.) RCT

Sexing monomorphic species. D. B. Hanmer. 1996. *Safring News* 25:53-54. Mitsasa, Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe (The profile of the lower chest of a bird laid on its back can be helpful in determining sex [male V-shaped, female more U-shaped], especially during the breeding season, if used in conjunction with cloacal protuberance shape and other features.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Identifying monochrome grebes in winter. K. Kaufman. 1992. *Amer. Birds* 46:1187-1190. 7934 Sabino Sunrise Circle, Tucson, AZ 85750 (Well illustrated comparison of variety of basic plumages of Eared and Horned grebes.) MKM

Identification of adult male Rufous and Allen's hummingbirds, with specific comments on dorsal coloration. P. M. McKenzie and M. B. Robbins. 1999. *West. Birds* 30:86-93. U.S.F.W.S., Rm. 200, 608 E. Cherry St., Columbia, MO 65201 (Birds with some rufous on back are Rufous or hybrids. Identification of extralimital individuals is discussed in detail, and problems identified.) RCT

Clinal variation in juvenal plumage of American Kestrels. J. A. Smallwood, C. Natale, K. Steenhof, M. Meetz, C. D. Marti, R. J. Melvin, G. R. Bortolotti, R. Robertson, S. Robertson, W. R. Shuford, S. A. Lindemann and B. Tornwall. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:425-435. Dept. Biol., Montclair State Univ., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 (Several characters used for aging and sexing vary geographically.) RCT

Age and sex determination of Akohekohe. J. Simon, T. K. Pratt, K. E. Berlin and J. R. Kowalsky. 1998. *J. Field Ornithol.* 69:654-660. U.S.G.S. -Biol. Resources Div., Kilauea Field Stn., Box 44, Hawaii Natl. Park, Hawaii 96716-0044 (Birds after first pre-basic molt show retained primaries and some body feathers that contrast with adult plumage. A linear discriminant function is used to separate larger males from females.) RCT

Sex determination of Great Black-backed Gulls, using morphometric characteristics. K. Mawhinney and T. Diamond. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:206-210. Atlantic Wildl. Ecol. Res., Univ. New Brunswick, Box 45111, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 6E1 (Individuals could be sexed with 99-100% accuracy using a combination of head length, bill depth and wing length. Males are larger.) RCT

Using body size to estimate gosling age. E. G. Cooch, A. Dzubin and R. F. Rockwell. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:214-229. Dept. Biol. Sci., Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6 (Although feather growth correlates strongly with age, growth rate varies with quantity and quality of food and predictions of gosling age from body size may cause undesirably large errors.) RCT

Sex determination of the Acadian Flycatcher using discriminant analysis. R. R. Wilson. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:514-519. U.S.G.S. -P.W.R.C., Suite C, 2524 S. Frontage Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180 (Birds were sexed during the breeding season, using wing and tail lengths.) RCT

First pre-basic molt in Herring, Thayer's and Glaucous-winged gulls. S. N. G. Howell, J. R. King and C. Corben. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:543-554. P.R.B.O., 4990 Shoreline Hwy., Stinson Beach, CA 94970 (Timing of molt in different populations of large gulls is discussed, particularly with reference to migratory status.) RCT

"Marshmallow" hummers. Anonymous. 1999. *Hummingbird Hotline* 52:3 c/o E. Womack, 1022 S. Sycamore Dr., Grove, OK 74344 (Descriptions of two leucistic [presumably Ruby-throated] hummingbirds in South Carolina and of a partial albino juvenile female Broad-tailed Hummingbird in Colorado.) MKM

Albinism in Alabama bluebirds. J. Findlay III. 1995. *Sialia* 17:16-17. 2749 Millbrook Rd., Birmingham, AL 35243 (Four examples of albinism in Eastern Bluebird fledglings, one of which was the first in more than 7,000 fledglings raised on a bluebird trail over 18 years. One was known to have three normally colored siblings.) MKM

What is *Falco altaicus* Menzbier? D. H. Ellis. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:15-25. Natl. Biol. Survey, Patuxent Environ. Sci. Center, Laurel, MD 20708 (Wing chord, tail length and various plumage features of Gyrfalcon and Saker, compared with those of 34 "core group" "Altay Falcon" specimens, contribute to evidence that the "Altay Falcon" is probably a hybrid Gyrfalcon x Saker, with three [red-backed, brown and gray] color morphs. Color photographs of specimens illustrate plumage features.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Survival of Greater White-fronted Geese: effects of year, season, sex, and body condition. J. A. Schmutz and C. R. Ely. 1999. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 63:1239-1249. U.S. Geol. Survey, Biol. Resources Div., Alaska Biol. Sci. Center, 1011 E. Tudor Rd., Anchorage, AK 99503 (1224 White-fronted Geese [*Anser albifrons fontalis*] were banded and neck-collared in Oregon and California in spring, fall and winter. Data suggest that survival rates have increased during the last 30 years.) FH

Reproduction in a declining population of Wild Turkeys in Arkansas. W. E. Thogmartin and J. E. Johnson. 1999. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 63:1281-1290. Coop. Wildl. Res. Lab. & Dept. Zool., Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale, IL 62901 (During this four-year study, 148 hen Wild Turkeys were banded, 129 of which were also fitted with radio transmitters. While physical condition of hens prior to nesting season was found to be important, predation of nests and poults was a limitation to successful reproduction.) FH

Northern Bobwhite chick mortality caused by red imported fire ants. J. M. Mueller, C. B. Dabbert, S. Demarais and A. R. Forbes. 1999. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 63:1291-1298. Dept. Wildl. & Fish., Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS 39762 (The authors radio-marked 148 hen Northern Bobwhite in Texas in 1997 and 1998. About half of the nests found were depredated by vertebrates, and "...bobwhite chicks can suffer high levels of mortality due to red imported fire ants..." These factors can help explain population declines of bobwhite.) FH

The use of mist-net capture rates to monitor annual variation in abundance: a validation study. M. Silkey, N. Nur and G. R. Guepel. 1999. *Condor* 101:288-298. P.R.B.O., 4990 Shoreline Hwy., Stinson Beach, CA 94790 (Variation in constant-effort mist-net capture rates of adults correlated with breeding densities determined by spot-mapping of color-banded adults for three of four species. Among Wrentits and Song Sparrows, 50% or more of adults captured in mist-nets were not territory holders in the study site.) RCT

Seasonal movements of Marbled Murrelets–evidence from banded birds. W. D. Beauchamp, F. Cooke, C. Lougheed, L. W. Lougheed, C. J. Ralph and S. Courtney. 1999. *Condor* 101:671-674. F.C.: Dept. Biol. Sci., Simon Fraser Univ., 8888 University Dr., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6 (Marbled Murrelet banded in breeding plumage in British Columbia was recaptured in the San Juan Islands, Washington.) RCT

Dispersal of Great Horned Owls banded in Saskatchewan and Alberta. C. S. Houston. 1999. *J. Field Ornithol.* 70:343-350. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0J8 (Owls dispersed farther than in studies in other areas, and farthest in years of low hare density.) RCT

Bird banding in southeastern South Dakota 1991-1994. D. Swanson and K. Dean. 1996. *S. Dak. Bird Notes* 48:5-8. Dept. Biol., Univ. S. Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069 (Totals by year of 4186 birds of 87 species banded in Clay and Union counties, South Dakota, primarily in summer and winter during 1991 and 1992 and primarily during spring and fall migrations during 1993 and 1994. Comments on five other species caught, but not banded, are also included, and results are compared with banding totals of D. Tallman and D. Skadsen in Brown and Day counties respectively.) MKM

Bird banding in Clay, Union, and Custer counties, South Dakota, 1995-1998. D. L. Swanson. 1999. *S. Dak. Bird Notes* 51:5-8. Dept. Biol., Univ. S. Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069 (Totals by year of 5198 birds of 99 species banded, including some comparisons with 1991-1994 results. Captures of several species rare in South Dakota or in southern portions of the state are discussed. Most remarkable was the capture of 27 Virginia's Warblers in summer 1998, as this species was not documented in South Dakota until 1997!) MKM

Spring banding at the Haldimand Bird Observatory. Anonymous. 1999. *Harrier* 3(1):1-8. Haldimand Bird Observ., Box 25, Nanticoke, Ont. N0A 1L0 (During spring 1999, 3405 birds of 93 species, two hybrids and one additional race were banded at two stations in southern Ontario. Additional captures included numerous within-season retraps [up to ten times per individual bird] and returns from previous seasons. One Gray Catbird and one Brown-headed Cowbird previously banded at other southern Ontario sites were also retrapped at HBO sites.) MKM

Bill Hilton's banded bird count. B. Hilton. 1999. *Hummingbird Hotline* 52:2. c/o E. Womack, 1022 S. Sycamore Dr., Grove, OK 74344 (South Carolina bander banded his 35,000th bird of 120 species in February 1999; recaptures include a five-year old female Ruby-throated Hummingbird.) MKM

Recoveries. Anonymous. 1999. *Hummingbird Hotline* 52:4. c/o E. Womack, 1022 S. Sycamore Dr., Grove, OK 74344 (Intra-state movements of Black-chinned Hummingbirds in New Mexico and of Broad-billed Hummingbird in Mississippi, and inter-state movement of Ruby-throated Hummingbird from Louisiana to Florida and of Rufous Hummingbird from Louisiana to Tennessee. Changes were noted between captures in weight and degree of bill striation of the Broad-billed.) MKM

My recoveries, also Jan Hall's & Marguerite Baumgartner's. E. Womack. 1999. *Hummingbird Hotline* 52:4. 1022 S. Sycamore Dr., Grove, OK 74344 (Details, with summary map, of four movements of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds– from Kansas and Oklahoma to Minnesota and from Oklahoma to Texas.) MKM

Cannibalism by color-banded Ring-billed Gulls. K. M. Brown and A. S. Lang. 1996. *Colonial Waterbirds* 19:121-123. GNRA-JBWR/Sta. 101, HQ Bldg. 69, Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, NY 11234 (Six of 62 color-banded gulls at an Ontario colony were observed to cannibalize eggs and/or chicks of other colony members. One male accounted for 74% of the 23 incidents observed.) MKM

Nesting, density, nest area reoccupancy, and monitoring implications for Cooper's Hawks in Wisconsin. R. N. Rosenfield, J. Bielefeldt, J. L. Affeldt and D. J. Beckman. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:1-4. Dept. Biol., Univ. Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI 54481 (By 1992, all nesting adults banded in one study area in 1986 had been replaced by "new breeders." Mark/recapture data from birds banded at over 200 nests 1980-1993 indicated that males show lifetime breeding fidelity to breeding sites. Only nine cases of inter-year movements by banded females between nesting areas were known during 14 years.) MKM

Winter movements of adult Northern Goshawks that nested in southcentral Wyoming. J. R. Squires and L. F. Ruggiero. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:5-9. Rocky Mtn. Forest & Range Experiment Stn., 222 22nd St., Laramie, WY 82070 (Four of five transmitters attached to nesting adults in 1992 functioned long enough to document at least some of their post-nesting movements. One male was found dead during the winter. Another male and two females returned to their nesting areas the following spring, after wandering varying distances during the winter -at least one as far as Colorado.) MKM

Chronic reproductive failures at a Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nesting territory in northern California. J. M. Jenkins and R. W. Risebrough. 1995. *J. Raptor Res.* 29:35. Tech. & Ecol. Services, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., 3400 Crow Canyon Rd., San Ramon, CA 95483 (All known nestings for which reproductive success was known [15 of 18] from 1970 to 1992 were unsuccessful. A female banded in the territory in 1983 and recaptured and color-banded in 1992 appeared to occupy the territory continuously since at least 1983 until she was found dead in 1992. After the death of the first female, a new female mated with the male, color-banded in 1988, and this pair successfully fledged young in both 1993 and 1994.) MKM

Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 1998. R. Z. Dobos. 1999. *Ont. Birds* 17:62-83. 1156 5th Conc. Rd. W., R.R. 2, Waterdown, Ont. L0R 2H2 (Netting and banding at Thunder Cape Bird Observatory, near Thunder Bay, Ontario helped document the first confirmed record of Bewick's Wren in "northern" [= both northern and western] Ontario, as well as extralimital occurrences of Blue-winged Warbler and Painted Bunting.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

New records of birds banded in Havana, Cuba. E. Godinez. 1993. *El Pitirre* 7(2):4. Instituto de Ecologia y Sistematica, Academia de Ciencias de Cuba, Carretera Varona km. 3½, A.P. 8010, C.P. 10800, Habana 8, Cuba (Mist-netting resulted in first Cuban records of Acadian Flycatcher and

Scarlet Tanager, and first bandings in Cuba of Wood Thrush, Bay-breasted Warbler and Blackburnian Warbler.) MKM

On the function of pre-laying breeding site attendance in the Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*. F. M. Hunter. 1999. *Atlantic Seabirds* 1:3-16. Dept. Zool., Univ. Cambridge, Downing St., Cambridge CB2 3EJ, England (Observations at a colony in Shetland, U.K. in which all individuals could be recognized by color bands and/or unique culmen markings showed that females attending the colony area frequently prior to laying were more often involved in extra-pair copulations than those that attended infrequently. Most males attended the colony more frequently than most females, and seldom left their mates unattended during the presumed fertile period.) MKM

Low altitude record of Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*. W. E. Boles and B. Tynan. 1995. *Corella* 19:91. Australian Mus., 6 College St., Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia (Bird netted and banded at about 240 m, well below recent usual altitude of over 600 m, after the species was considered to have been extirpated below 400 m. Details of plumage, soft parts and measurements differed from those published for adults and some immatures, leading the authors to suspect that it was an immature female.) MKM

Movement patterns of Pied Currawongs *Strepera graculina* in central western New South Wales. J. R. Farrell. 1995. *Corella* 19:95-102. 73 Ellison Rd., New South Wales 2777, Australia (Color-banding of 254 currawongs helped demonstrate seasonal and age patterns of movements and site fidelity, as well as seasonal patterns in directions moved.) MKM

Little Terns in Botany Bay. K. Egan and G. C. Smith. 1994. *Corella* 18:47-48. 1 Bowman St., Mortdale, NSW 2223, Australia (A Little Tern color-banded at Spermwhale Head, Victoria in 1989 was observed nesting in Botany Bay, New South Wales in 1990-1991.) MKM

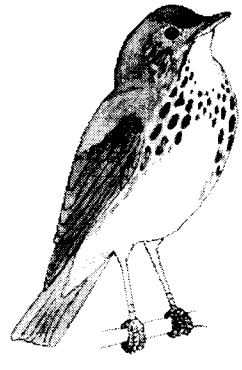
Oceanic flights of the Northern Royal Albatross *Diomedea epomophora sanfordi* using satellite telemetry. D. G. Nichols, M. D. Murray and C. J. R. Robertson. 1994. *Corella* 18:50-52. Frankston College of TAFE, Fletcher Rd., Frankston, Vic. 3199, Australia (Distances flown and duration of flights were documented by attaching transmitters to one nesting female and one nesting male at a New Zealand colony during early incubation. The data obtained indicate that flights of Northern Royal Albatrosses are shorter and slower than those of Wandering Albatrosses at a comparable stage of incubation.) MKM

What's the difference between robins and thrushes? A. Craig and P. Hulley. 1996. *Safring News* 25:51-52. Dept. Zool. & Entomol., Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown 6140, South Africa. (Although numbers of Cape Robins and Olive Thrushes banded at one site were identical [99], recapture rate of Cape Robins was three times as high as that of Olive Thrushes [18 vs 6], with Olive Thrushes showing some tendency to move greater distances than Cape Robins.) MKM

The northwest Australia wader expedition of 1996. A. J. Tree. 1996. *Safring News* 25:68-71. Box 211, Bathurst 6166, South Africa. (General account of banding efforts by Broome Bird Observatory at various sites along Roebuck Bay in Australia during a two-month period when over 8,000 shorebirds, 360 larids and "hundreds" of passerines were banded.) MKM

Note: Thanks to Fred Hartman for sending abstracts from *J. Wildl. Manage.* 63(4), 1999, included in this compilation and to David Swanson for copies of his South Dakota papers.

FH = Fred Hartman
MKM = Martin K. McNicholl
RCT = Robert C. Tweit



Hermit Thrush by George West