

On 29 Apr 2002, she had moved 5 m S to another nestbox erected in late 2001 and attached to a large California black oak. She was recaptured while incubating four eggs. On 3 May, the four chicks were banded and subsequently fledged. On 9 Jun, she was again recaptured in the same nestbox on the same nest. A small quantity of fur had been added but no major additions had been made to the nest. She had six eggs. On 18 Jun, the six chicks were banded and successfully fledged.

## LITERATURE CITED

Cicero, C. 2000. Oak Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*) and Juniper Titmouse (*Baeolophus ridgwayi*). In *The Birds of North America*, No. 485 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Birds of North America, Inc., Philadelphia, PA.

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## Recent Literature

### BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Consistency of mist netting and point counts in assessing landbird species richness and relative abundance during migration.** Y. Wang and D. M. Finch. 2002. *Condor* 104:59-72. U.S.D.A. -Forest Serv., Rocky Mtn. Res. Stn., 2205 Columbia SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106 (The two techniques were more consistent than in studies done on breeding or wintering habitats. Mist-netting detected 74% of the 197 species identified and point counts 82%. One hundred ten species were detected by both techniques.) RCT

**Retention and effects of nasal markers and subcutaneously implanted radio transmitters on breeding female Lesser Scaup.** R. W. Brook and R. G. Clark. 2002. *J. Field Ornithol.* 73:206-212. Dept. Biol., Univ. Saskatchewan, 112 Science Pl., Saskatoon, SK S7N 5F2 (Nasal markers were retained but affected behavior. Five of 47 radios were lost; average retention time 39 days. All 42 females survived through the observation period.) RCT

**Use of fish nets as a method to capture small rails.** B. Fuertes, J. Garcia, and J. M. Colino. 2002. *J. Field Ornithol.* 73:220-223. Dept. Biol. Anim., Univ. Leon, Campus de Vegazana 24071, Leon, Spain (Use of modified fish traps with fruit, vegetables, or cat food as bait gave best results.) RCT

**A comparison of point-count and mist-net detections of songbirds by habitat and time-of-season.** R. W. Pagen, F. R. Thompson, III, and D. E. Burhans. 2002. *J. Field Ornithol.* 73:53-59. Dept. Fish. & Wildl. Sci., 302 Nat. Resources Bldg., Univ.

Missouri, Columbia 65211 (Some species are detected more easily by point-counts, others by mist-nets. Habitat and season influence these results. Careful design is essential and neither method fits all species.) RCT

**Ringling techniques published in *Safring News*, 1972-1993.** L. G. Underhill. 1994. *Safring News* 23:73-80. Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town Rondebosch 7700, South Africa (Summary of various techniques for catching birds [nets, lures, traps, and lights], marking birds [nasal saddles, color bands, wing tags, dyes and natural markings], and other banding-related techniques and equipment [equipment boxes, pliers, holding boxes, measurements, recording of plumage/molt details, record-keeping, and unexpected hazards to birds and banders].) MKM

**Avoiding dangerous beaks.** S. Schoeman. 1994. *Safring News* 23:80-81. Box 94, Lydenburg 1120, South Africa (A suitably sized pill container punctured with air holes was placed over the heads of weavers and barbets during banding operations.) MKM

### IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS, AND MEASUREMENTS

**Determination of age of nestling Prothonotary Warblers.** D. W. Podlesak and C. R. Blem. 2002. *J. Field Ornithol.* 73:33-37. Dept. Biol., Virginia Commonwealth Univ., 816 Park Ave., Richmond 23284 (A method is presented for aging nestling Prothonotary Warblers, based on a sample of 766 birds.) RCT

**Bully Canaries ringed in Lydenburg.** S. Schoeman. 1994. *Safring News* 23:94. Box 94, Lydenburg 1120, South Africa (Measurements [total length, head, culmen, tarsus, wing, tail and weight] of 35 adults captured in this part of Eastern Transvaal differ from those published previously from other parts of South Africa and Zimbabwe.) MKM

**Does disturbance by nocturnal predators affect body mass of adult Common Terns?** H. Wendeln and P.H. Becker. 1999. *Waterbirds* 22:401-410. Inst. für Vogelforschung 'Vogelwarte Helgoland' An der Vogelwarte 21, D-26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany (Common Terns marked with transponders did not show a mass reduction during prolonged periods of disturbance to nest-sites by Long-eared Owls, and mass loss during nights of high disturbance did not differ from mass loss during undisturbed nights. Frequent predation caused a prolongation of incubation periods and a reduction in hatching and breeding success.) MKM

**Morphometrics and weights of birds in the Free State, South Africa.** G. Kopij. 2001. *Afring News* 30:16-18. Dept. Biol., Natl. Univ. Lesotho, P.O. Roma 180, Lesotho, South Africa (Previous measurements of many species of birds in South Africa were taken on birds for which sex could not be determined. In this paper, data are presented from 154 birds of five species for which sex was determined by gonadal examination. Tables present minimum, maximum, and mean wing, tail, tarsal and culmen lengths and weights of males and females of Whitewinged Korhaan, Blacksmith Plover, Spotted Dikkop, and Pied and Wattled starlings.) MKM

**Mass loss in Masked and Cape weavers and Redbilled Quelea.** H. D. Oschadleus. 2001. *Afring News* 30:19-22. Avian Demography Unit, Dept. Statistical Sci., UCT, Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa (Masses were recorded on weavers captured for banding while going to roost in suburban Pretoria, masses of the same birds recorded the next morning, and percentage lost overnight determined.) MKM

**A reassessment of plumage characters in ageing Antarctic Terns.** A. J. Tree and N. T. W. Klages. 2001. *Afring News* 30:28-29. Box 211,

Bathurst 6166, South Africa (Field work in 1999 and 2000 allowed the authors to refine their earlier [*Safring News* 27:15-17, 1998] descriptions of crown cap, cheek stripe, and underparts according to age and to better sort out primary molt.) MKM

**Evidence for eclipse plumage in the Lesser Double-collared Sunbird.** A. J. Tree. 2001. *Afring News* 30:30-31. Box 211, Bathurst 6166, South Africa. (The possibility of eclipse plumage in Double-collared Sunbirds suggested by Rob Martin in 1983 has been considered unlikely, with the birds observed by him thought to be immature males in partial adult plumage. The recapture of a bird in apparent sub-adult plumage that had been banded previously as an adult male in nuptial plumage and the capture of several other similarly plumaged birds suggests that eclipse plumage does occur in this species and possibly also in Miombo Double-collared Sunbirds.) MKM

#### **NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS**

**Three of Alberta's confusing flycatchers.** E. T. Jones. 2002. *Alta. Nat.* 32:68-69. 119-215 Blackburn Dr., E. SW, Edmonton, AB T6W 1B9 (Earliest and latest spring and fall banding dates in central Alberta [mostly Beaverhill Lake] are listed for Least and Alder flycatchers for each year 1991-2001 and for Willow Flycatcher for spring 1999-2001 and fall 1998-2001. Banding totals are tabulated for Least [7139] and Alder/Trill's [1723] flycatchers 1957-2001 and for Willow Flycatcher [143] 1998-2001. Information on head features and wing morphology of each species is also included, along with nesting data. The scientific names of Alder and Willow flycatchers are switched in one table, but used correctly in other parts of the paper.) MKM

**1998 Beaverhill Lake sight records.** R. Fairweather. 2000. Appendix C, [pp. 20-27] in L. Takats (Ed.). Beaverhills Bird Observatory 1998 annual report. Beaverhills Bird Observatory, Edmonton. c/o Beaverhill Bird Observatory, Box 1418, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N5 (Netting for banding by observatory personnel and Edgar T. Jones produced several species unusual for central Alberta or for the season, most notably the first Wood Thrush, Varied Thrush and Black-throated Blue Warbler.) MKM

**Calling Lake 2000 banding & censusing project.** P. Rowell. 2002. *Alta. Nat.* 32:80-81. #4 Morgan Cresc., St. Albert, AB T5L 3H2 (During the first spring session of a planned long-term banding project in central Alberta, 101 birds of 18 species were banded.) MKM

**Summary of fall report.** C. Rice. 1998. *Willet* 11(1):1-2. also reprinted, pp. [52-53] in L. Takats (Ed.). 2000. Beaverhill Bird Observatory 1998 Ann. Rept. Beaverhill Bird Observatory, Edmonton. c/o Beaverhill Bird Observatory, Box 1418, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N5 (Between 30 Jul and 30 Oct, 1601 of 1820 birds caught were banded, including a new one-day high for the observatory of 195 birds [115 Yellow-rumped Warblers] netted and 193 banded [99 Yellow-rumps] on 11 Sep.) MKM

**The return of the Great Gray Owl.** L. Takats. 1998. *Willet* 11(1):1-2. also reprinted, pp. [52-53] in L. Takats (Ed.). 2000. Beaverhill Bird Observatory 1998 Ann. Rept. Beaverhill Bird Observ., Edmonton. c/o Beaverhill Bird Observatory, Box 1418, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N5 (A hatch-year owl caught and banded north of Fort Saskatchewan, AB, in Nov 1997 was recaptured 5 Jan 1998 over 14 km away.) MKM

**Long-term movement patterns for seven species of wading birds.** S. L. Melvin, D. E. Gawlik, and T. Scharff. 1999. *Waterbirds* 22:411-416 S. Florida Water Mgmt. Dist., Ecosystem Restoration Dept., 3301 Gun Club Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33406 (Banding and recovery records from 1914 to 1994 for Little Blue, Tricolored and Great Blue herons, Glossy and White ibises, and Great and Snowy egrets banded as juveniles and recovered five months or more later between March and July showed mean dispersal distances to be greatest for Little Blue Heron, followed by Glossy Ibis, Tricolored Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, and White Ibis.) MKM

**Nocturnal activity of Ring-billed Gulls at and away from the colony.** P. N. Hebert and R. McNeil. 1999. *Waterbirds* 22:445-451. Dept. Biol., Univ. Manitoba, Winnipeg R3T 2N2 (Adults trapped on nests were color banded and color marked on breast or nape according to sex. Observations of marked birds and their partners indicated that feeding rates of chicks were similar for both sexes during both diurnal and nocturnal periods.) MKM

## NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Antbirds in Columbia [sic: Colombia].** C. A. Botero Toro. 1998. *Wandering Tattler* 21(5):1-2. No address given. (Data were collected on territory sizes, use of habitat and activity patterns of four neighboring color-banded flocks of antbirds during 40 days in which 151 birds of 47 species were banded in spite of conflicts between paramilitary and government forces close to the study area. Besides directed project results, netting/banding activities helped confirm the presence of several species suspected to occur in the area and to expand the known range of others, including one species of antbird not previously documented in Colombia.) MKM

**Ringling in the Potchefstroom area.** S. de Beer. 1994. *Safring News* 23:90-93. Box 70036, Mieder Park 2527, South Africa (Summary of first three years banding and bander-training efforts at 27 sites in a new banding area in South Africa.) MKM

**Selected recoveries from Safring: January 1994 - June 1994.** T. B. Oatley. 1994. *Safring News* 23:95-102. SAFRING, Univ. of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa (Details time and distance between banding and recovery of 72 recoveries of 46 species banded or recovered in southern Africa and banded or recovered in several African and European countries, Brazil, New Zealand, and the Southern Ocean. The only recovery in the western hemisphere was a Yellow-browed Albatross banded on Tristan Island in the southern Atlantic and recovered four months later in Brazil.) MKM

**Origin and movements of Grey Plovers *Pluvialis squatorola* ringed in Germany.** K.-M. Exo and S. Wahls. 1996. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 81:42-45. Inst. für Vogelforschung, An der Vogelwarte 21, 26386 Wilhelmshaven, Germany (Of 2,896 Black-bellied Plovers banded in two programs in Germany by the end of 1993, 44 had been recovered by the beginning of 1995, but only 22 of these were suitable for analysis. These recoveries suggest that birds migrating through Germany nest in Arctic Russia and winter from north-eastern Scotland to the Gulf of Guinea. Limited data suggest that birds wintering in Britain may leave the Wadden Sea staging area later than those that winter further south, and that young birds may migrate over a broader front than older birds.) MKM

**New data on breeding Wilson's Plovers *Charadrius wilsonia* in Brazil.** 1996. A. Rodrigues, D. Oren, and A. Lopes. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 81:80-81. Dept. de Biol., Univ. Fed. do Maranhao, Largo dos Amores, 21 -Centro, 65.020-240 Sao Luis, Maranhao, Brazil (All three chicks were banded in Brazil's first documented successful nesting of Wilson's Plover and data on culmen length, tarsal length and mass of these chicks are tabulated.) MKM

**Variability in day and night feeding habitat use in the Willet *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* during the non-breeding season in northeastern Venezuela.** G. Rompre' and R. McNeil. 1996. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 81:82-87. Dept. de Sci. biol., Univ. de Montreal, C. P. 6128, Succ. "Centreville," Montreal, PQ H3C 3J7 (Color-banding and radio-transmitters were used to study influence of micro-habitat, presence or absence of moonlight, territoriality, foraging strategy, types of prey, and abundance of prey on diurnal pattern of foraging behavior.) MKM

**A third report on the biology of the Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* on the breeding grounds.** P. S. Tomkovich. 1996. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 81:88-90. Ornithol. Dept., Zool. Mus. of Moscow Univ., Bolshaya Nikitskaya Str. 6, Moscow 103009, Russia (Of 25 adult males color-banded on a Siberian study area in 1993, 24 were found back on the study area in 1995, when one bird banded in 1993 but not seen in 1994 was also seen, giving a 92% return rate. Only two of four marked females were seen in 1995, and one of those only in a post-breeding flock. The other marked female was mated to the same mate for the third consecutive year. None of 29 chicks banded in 1993 was seen in 1994 or 1995. A yellow-flagged adult female collected on the study area had been banded in Australia. An adult "marked" on its Siberian nest in June 1995 was observed in Australia in December 1995.) MKM

**Movements of Humboldt Penguins from a breeding colony in Chile.** R. S. Wallace, K. Grzybowski, E. Diebold, M. G. Michaels, J. A. Teare, and M. J. Willis. 1999. *Waterbirds* 22:441-444 Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226 (Of 447 Humboldt Penguins wing-banded between April 1994 and October 1995, 19 have been recovered. Of these, 18 were found dead [eight in fishing nets], the other observed alive in a different breeding colony.

Distances between banding and recovery sites ranged from 3-592 km.) MKM

**Nine years in the eastern highlands of Zimbabwe.** D. B. Hanmer. 2001. *Afring News* 30:3-15. Box 3076, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe (Annual banding totals 1990-1999 at four mist-netting sites during a period which included both drought and heavy rain periods [El Niño and La Niña events] with data on recovery rates, longevity records and movements.) MKM

**Phakalane sewage lagoons: a summary of nearly five years of ringing effort.** S. J. Tyler. 2001. *Afring News* 30:23-27. Room 106, DAHP, Private Bag 0032, Gaborone, Botswana (From July 1996 to March 2001, 3975 birds of 68 species have been banded to date in an area of varied habitats. Preliminary data are summarized on migration chronology and site fidelity, and a table lists wing measurement and mass data for 13 species.) MKM

**MKM** = Martin K. McNicholl

**RCT** = Robert C. Tweit

**Notes:** After abstracting *Condor* for several years, Bob Tweit has indicated that he will not renew his subscription to that journal after this year. Thus, a volunteer abstractor for 2003 and beyond is needed. Many thanks to Bob for his years of covering *Condor*, as well as for his continued coverage of *Journal of Field Ornithology* and *Western Birds*. A full list of our volunteer abstractors will appear in *NABB* 27(4), 2002.

Donald J. Stiles (pers. comm. 13 Sep 2002) has written that the bird banded near Pincher Creek, AB, and recovered 1040 km southwest in California mentioned in *NABB* 26:166 (second abstract) was a Tree Swallow, not a Mountain Bluebird as surmised. Details of this and several other recent Tree Swallow recoveries and longevity records are being written up for publications that will be abstracted in these pages in due course.

After 29 years of publication, *Safring News* has broadened its coverage from southern Africa (South Africa and its immediate neighbors) to all of Africa and changed its name to *Afring News*, to be published twice annually. Enquiries about foreign subscriptions should be sent to SAFRING, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa. -M.K.M.