



The North American Banding Council

<http://www.nabanding.net/nabanding>

Promoting Sound and Ethical Banding Principles and Techniques

What is the North American Banding Council?

The North American Banding Council is an incorporated non-profit group representing organizations whose members utilize bird banding as a research tool. These members have developed and formalized accepted bird banding principles and techniques. The council now certifies banders who have demonstrated excellence in these principles and techniques. The council is also in the process of developing standards for bird banding trainers and certification of those trainers.

Bird studies benefit from:

1. an increased number of competent banders,
2. more skilled banders,
3. more reliable data,
4. more opportunities for collaborative studies.

Study Guides:

Six study guides for standards in the handling and banding of birds have been developed by the council. They cover general banding practices, trainer's guide, passerines, raptors, shorebirds, and hummingbirds. Others are in the works.

Officers:

Chair: Mark Shieldcastle (Mark.Shieldcastle@dnr.state.oh.us) – IAFWA
Secretary: Ruth Russell (NABCsec@dakotacom.net) – At-large Member
Treasurer: Buzz Hull (Buzz_Hull@ggnpa.org) – Raptor Research Foundation

Committee Chairs:

Evaluation & Certification – John Alexander
Education – Ken Burton
Policy – Audrey Heagy (Canada) and Mark Shieldcastle (US)

Publication – C.J. Ralph
Outreach – Tom Bartlett

Who is represented by the North American Banding Council?

American Ornithologists' Union
Association of Field Ornithologists
Canadian Bird Banding Office
Cooper Ornithological Society
Eastern Bird Banding Association
Inland Bird Banding Association
Ontario Bird Banding Association
Pacific Seabird Group
Raptor Research Foundation
Society of Canadian Ornithologists
The Waterbird Society
Western Bird Banding Association
Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network
Wilson Ornithological Society
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

This will be a regular page in *NABB* sponsored by EBBA, IBBA, and WBBA. The purpose of this page will be to explain the function of NABC, its activities, its resources, and to assist bird banders in becoming more skillful and productive.

Check the NABC webpage for information on obtaining study guides and upcoming certification sessions.