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## Recent Literature

### BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Effects of radiotransmitters on Northern Goshawks: do tailmounts lower survival of breeding males?** R. T. Reynolds, G. C. White, S. M. Joy and R. W. Mannan. 2004. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 68:25-32. Rocky Mtn. Res. Stn., Suite 350, Bldg. A, 2150 Centre Ave., Ft. Collins, CO 80526 (Compares survival of adult male and female goshawks fitted with leg bands only, leg bands with tail-mounted transmitters and leg bands with backpack transmitters. Annual survival rates of goshawks with leg bands only was 0.75 compared to 0.79 for those with backpack transmitters and 0.29 for those with tail-mounts. Low survival rates for tail-mounted birds was unexpected because of the smaller size and shorter duration compared to backpack transmitters. The authors suggest that a small sample size may explain the unusual results.) SG

**Ringling Lesser Kestrels in the Karoo.** J. Moorcroft. 2000. *Safring News* 29:81-82. 46 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Walmer 6065, Port Elizabeth, South Africa (Outlines several unsuccessful and marginally successful trapping and netting techniques for catching this species until a technique of using three nets of different heights at roost sites resulted in the capture and banding of 70 birds in slightly less than one month.) MKM

**The Pierce springtrap.** D. Forbes. 2000. *Safring News* 29:83-84. c/o Dr. Colleen Downs, School of

Botany & Zool., Private Bag X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa. (Description of spring traps of various sizes, baited with mealworms, crickets or grapes to catch thrushes and other forest birds as a supplement to mist-netting efforts, with notes of caution to ensure that birds caught in the traps are not predated and are not able to move the traps ) MKM

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

**Geographic variation in body mass of the Bananaquit (*Coerebra flaveola*) in the Trinidad and Tobago Archipelago.** F. E. Hayes, S. A. White, R. P. French and S. Bodnar. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:18-22. Dept. Biol., Pacific Union College, Angwin, CA (An analysis of body mass of 1571 Bananaquits mist-netted on Trinidad or Tobago from 1958 to 2002 showed significant variation among six regions, with higher elevation birds exhibiting higher body masses than lower elevation birds and a west-east trend wherein birds from the Bocas Islands and Trinidad had higher masses than birds from Tobago and Little Tobago.) MKM

**Fist North American record of a melanistic female Northern Harrier.** C. V. Olson and S. A. H. Osborn. 2000. *J. Raptor Res.* 34:58-59. Montana Coop. Wildl. Res. Unit, Univ. Montana, Missoula, MT 59812 (Detailed description of bird observed for about 40 minutes in November in Montana. The

only previous record of a melanistic Northern Harrier in North America was a male in California, although there are "several" records of melanism in the conspecific Hen Harrier of the Palearctic.) MKM

**Great Reed Warblers in south-east Botswana.**

S. J. Tyler. 2000. *Safring News* 29:67-72. Rm. 106, DAHP, Private Bag 0032, Gabarone, Botswana (Data are tabulated for wing lengths, mass and molt of 91 Great Reed Warblers captured in mist nets over three summers in a lagoon area. Data on re-traps and habitat use are included, as are numbers of four other *Acrocephalus* warbler species.) MKM

**NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS**

**Banding in Ontario: 2003.** T. L. Groh and M. L. Wernaart. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:1-15. 25 Lakeview Cr., R.R. 1, St. Williams, ON N0E 1P0 (74,019 birds of 261 "species" [including some hybrids and distinct races] are tabulated as banded by five individual banders and ten banding groups or observatories. Graphs depict numbers of birds and "species" banded by each bander or group and the overall totals of the top 25 species banded by contributors to the report.) MKM

**Haldimand Bird Observatory 2003 annual report.** J. A. Smith. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:16-19. 358 Diltz Rd., R. R. 2, Dunnville, ON (14,738 birds of 116 species were banded at three stations in the former Ontario county of Haldimand. Banding effort, principal bander and numbers of birds caught in spring and fall are tabulated for each station. A table lists 12 birds of eight species that were banded elsewhere and recovered at a station at which they were not banded. Six of these had been banded at a different Haldimand station, the others at other Ontario sites. Another table lists eight birds of eight species banded at one of the Haldimand stations and recovered elsewhere in Arkansas, New York, Pennsylvania or Quebec.) MKM

**Long Point Bird Observatory 2003 annual report.** C. Friis. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:20-23. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (The total of 17,507 birds of 131 species banded in L.P.B.O.'s 44<sup>th</sup> season was lower than in most recent years,

with the spring opening of one station delayed by an ice storm and another station closed for portions of both spring and fall for renovations. The text includes highlights, such as rarities, comments on banding effort and recent trends in species that are banded in declining and increasing numbers. A graph compares numbers of the top ten species banded in 2003 with their 1960-2002 averages and a table compares the top 20 2003 totals with their 1990-2002 annual averages and 1990-2002 totals. Another table lists details of 13 birds of seven species banded at L.P.B.O. and recovered elsewhere in Ontario [six], Ohio [two], Pennsylvania, Quebec, Washington and Wisconsin [one each]). A Bald Eagle banded as a nestling in 1996 was recovered nearly seven years later in Ohio, while a Tundra Swan was reported in Quebec one year and in Wisconsin the next year.) MKM

**Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory, 2003 annual summary.** D. Okines. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:24-27. St. Williams, ON N0E 1P0 (The total of 4213 birds of 97 taxa banded in the spring was the second highest in nine years of spring banding, with 24 taxa attaining their highest totals to date. 5,511 birds of 101 taxa were banded in the fall. The text summarizes various banding and observational highlights by month, while tables list the top ten species and the top ten warbler species banded in each season.) MKM

**Holiday Beach Migration Observatory fall 2003 banding summary.** A. Chartier. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:28. 1442 W. River Park Dr., Inkster, MI 48141-1837 (Although the number of birds banded per net-hour was the lowest in this station's seven years to date, the 76 species total was the highest to date and the total of 1310 plus 89 recaptures was the second highest total of individuals. The new highs resulted from increased days of coverage and two additional nets. New species and a few comparisons [increases and decreases] with other years are mentioned briefly.) MKM

**Ontario cooperative banding program results for 2003.** J. C. Davies and B. Pollard. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:29-37. address not included. (The total of 9820 birds of 18 waterfowl species, Mallard x American Black Duck hybrids and three other water bird species banded in 2003 constituted the lowest in 13 years, primarily because of airboat

malfunction. Tables and graphs indicate numbers of each species banded by station in 2003 and the previous 15 years, while the text outlines several recommendations for future efforts. A cited appendix is missing from the paper.) MKM

**Migration monitoring at Cabot Head Bruce Peninsula Bird Observatory annual report 2003.** S. Menu. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:38-49. 3771/2 Dolbeau, Quebec, QC G1S 2R4 (1,479 birds of 69 species were newly banded during spring, when 97 birds of 27 species were recaptured. During fall, 2,047 birds of 68 species were newly banded and 197 birds of 33 species were recaptured. The most notable of several extralimital records was a Hermit Warbler captured on 13 May. Tables compare monthly and weekly captures with those in other years, while the accompanying text discusses trends shown by several species. Fall numbers are shown in total and with Black-capped Chickadees excluded. Recaptures are discussed in considerable detail and tabulated by species in comparison with each of the previous three years. The proportion of banded birds that were recaptured is calculated for 20 species. Capture rates are discussed in relation to weather, effort and mist-net position. A cited appendix is missing.) MKM

**Notes from Cortes and Mittenatch islands.** F. Zwickel and G. Sirk. 1993. *B.C. Field Ornithol.* 3(4):18. Box 81, Manson's Landing, BC V0P 1K0 (Two neck-banded Trumpeter Swans observed on a lagoon on Cortes Is., BC on 24 May 1993 were banded as cygnets in Idaho in Dec 1992, transplanted to Oregon and sighted subsequently in California and Oregon prior to the Cortes Is. sighting.) MKM

**Spotted Owl home-range and habitat use in young forests of western Oregon.** E. M. Glenn, M. C. Hansen and R. G. Anthony. 2004. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 68:33-50. Oregon State Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit, Dept. Fish & Wildl., Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97331 (Radio-telemetry was used to compare Northern Spotted Owl home range and habitat use in old and young conifer forests in Oregon. Home-range sizes were

generally lower in younger forest stands; proportion of old conifers in the stand appeared to have the most influence on home-range size variation. Locations of owls via telemetry were closer to ecotones of broadleaf forest with cover types and farther from ecotones of forest and non-forest habitat types when compared to random points. Overall, owls showed no strong preference or avoidance of any cover type in either old or young forests.) SG

**Marine and agricultural habitat preferences of Dunlin wintering in British Columbia.** P. C. F. Shepherd and D. B. Lank. 2004. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 68:61-73. West. Canada Serv. Centre, Parks Canada, 300-300 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, BC V6B 6B4 (Radio-telemetry was used to investigate Dunlin habitat preferences in the Fraser River delta of British Columbia. Dunlin showed a significant preference for tidally influenced marine habitats throughout the study. More than 80% of marked Dunlin used terrestrial habitats, mostly during high tides and at night. Pasture was the most important terrestrial habitat, presumably because of short, heavily fertilized [through cattle feces] grass. The importance of terrestrial habitats, such as pastures, to Dunlin has been underestimated, encouraging landowners to maintain certain terrestrial habitats may be beneficial to shorebird conservation.) SG

**Habitat use and preferences of breeding female Wood Ducks.** K. M. Hartke and G. R. Hepp. 2004. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 68:84-93. School of For. & Wildl. Sci., 108 White Smith Hall Rd., Auburn Univ., Auburn, AL 36849 (Radio-telemetry was used to document female Wood Duck habitat use during pre-laying and egg-laying periods. Home-range size and habitat use did not differ between pre-laying and egg-laying periods. Lake-influenced habitats and managed impoundments appeared to be preferred high quality habitat; however, other habitats also provided sufficient resources for females to nest successfully. A variety of habitat types should increase the probability of meeting females' needs throughout the breeding season, particularly in areas in which wetland conditions change frequently.) SG

**Winter survival and additive harvest in Northern Bobwhite coveys in Kansas.** C. K. Williams, R. S. Lutz and R. D. Applegate. 2004. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 68:94-100. Dept. Wildl. Ecol., 226 Russell Labs, Univ. Wisconsin, 1630 Linden Dr., Madison, WI 53706 (Simulated harvests on radio-marked bobwhite coveys were used to determine effects of harvest on mortality rates. Sixty percent of each marked covey was trapped and removed in experimentally harvested sites; none were removed from unharvested sites. Natural mortality rates of marked quail did not differ between harvested and unharvested sites. Estimated winter survival was 48% on harvested compared to 21% on unharvested sites, indicating that simulated harvest mortality was additive to natural mortality.) SG

**First-year movements by juvenile Mexican Spotted Owls in the canyonlands of Utah.** D. W. Willey and C. van Riper III. 2000. *J. Raptor Res.* 34:1-7. Dept. Biol. & Wildl., Univ. Alaska, Fairbanks, 211 Irving I., Fairbanks, AK 99775 (Natal dispersal of 85% of 25 surviving juveniles of 31 radio-tagged in August during 1992-1995 was in September, the rest in October. Onset of movements was sudden and in varied directions. Dispersal of five sets of sibling pairs suggested that siblings dispersed at the same time, but in different directions. Only three remained alive after one year. Supplementing feeding of five owls resulted in dispersal dates that were significantly earlier than those not fed supplemental food.) MKM

**Diet of autumn migrating Northern Saw-whet Owls on the eastern shore of Virginia.** D. M. Whalen, B. D. Watts and D. W. Johnson. 2000. *J. Raptor Res.* 34:42-44. Dept. Biol., Univ. New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131 (based on contents of 53 pellets regurgitated by owls in holding boxes during 1995-1997 banding sessions as well as stomach contents of 15 road-killed owls.) MKM

## **NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS**

**Banding in Costa Rica -2003.** J. Woodcock. 2004. *Ont. Bird Banding* 35:50-55. 350 N. Harold St., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4C6 (231 Nearctic-breeding migrants of 20 species were banded at

four sites over four months during the winter of 2002-2003 and 107 birds of 11 species at five sites in 2003-2004. Neotropical resident species captured were released unbanded.) MKM

**Avian research monitoring, and conservation in the Dominican Republic.** K. Wallace. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:59-61. Soc. Ornitol. de la Hispaniola, Apdo. 3284, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (Long-term mist-net monitoring of resident and migrant birds has begun at 12 sites in three areas of the Dominican Republic.) MKM

**Ornithological research and conservation efforts in Puerto Rico.** A. G. Tossas. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:67-71. Puerto Rican Ornithol. Soc., Alt. de Mayaguez, 713 Yunque, Mayaguez, PR 00682-6234 (A mist-netting project was started by Leopoldo Miranda and Stephan Earsom in 2001 at six locations to document diversity and abundance of native and migratory land birds.) MKM

**A research and training program for conservation of wintering Kirtland's Warbler and associated species in the Bahamas: the first field season.** E. Carey, J. M. Wunderle, Jr. and D. N. Ewart. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:81-85. Dept. Agric., Botanical Gardens, Chippingham Rd., Nassau, Bahamas (During surveys for Kirtland's Warblers, six were captured and color-banded on Eleuthra. A mist-netting and color banding project was also started on four "focal species:" Thick-billed Vireo, Prairie and Palm warblers and Bahamas Yellowthroat.) MKM

**The status of resident and migrant bird communities in Cuban ecosystems.** H. Gonzalez Alonso, A. Llanes Sosa, B. Sanchez Oria, D. Rodriguez Batista, E. Perez Mena, P. Blanco Rodriguez and R. Oveido Prieto. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:86-93. Inst. de Ecologia y Sistemática, Ministerio de Ciencias, Tecnol. y Medio Ambiente de Cuba, La Habana, Cuba (Mist-netting was conducted during winter and fall in conjunction with circular plot counts at 34 sites in ten areas from 1988 to 1999. Several Nearctic-breeding, Neotropical-wintering migrants were recaptured at their banding sites in subsequent years, demonstrating high fidelity to wintering sites in several species.) MKM

**Status and conservation of the family Psittacidae in the West Indies.** J. W. Wiley, R. S. Gnam, S. E. Koenig, A. Dornelly, X. Galvez, P. E. Bradley, T. White, M. Zamore, P. R. Reillo and D. Anthony. 2004. *J. Carib. Ornithol.* 17:94-154. U.S. Geol. Surv., Maryland Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit, 1120 Trigg Hall, Univ. Maryland East. Shore, Princess Anne, MD 21853 (Radio-tracking has been used to monitor post-fledging movements and survival of wild Puerto Rican Parrots as part of the background studies to an intensive restoration program.) MKM

**Ringling efforts in two South African mistbelt mixed *Podocarpus* forests.** C. Symes, O. Wirminghaus and C. Downs. 2000. *Safring News* 29:59-66. School of Botany & Zool., Univ. Natal, Private Bag X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa (Mist-netting at two sites from 1994 to 1999 resulted in the capture and banding of 564 birds of 54 species. Numbers of each species are tabulated for each site, along with numbers recaptured more than one month after banding. Birds caught per net hour are compared for both sites as well as for four other non-forest sites in the same area. Differences between sites are discussed in comparison with spot counts and general observations.) MKM

**Warblers ringed in Swaziland between 1994 and 1999.** A. Monadjem. 2000. *Safring News* 29:73-79. Dept. Biol. Sci., Univ. Swaziland, Private Bag 4, Kwaluseni, Swaziland (Data on 14 species caught in mist-nets in marsh habitat by two dams, including numbers of each species caught at each site, capture rates of seven species by season, notes on molt and mensural data [mass and wing lengths] of seven species.) MKM

**Tribute to the *Treasure* ringers.** H. D. Oschadleus, L. G. Underhill and A. G. Wolfaardt. 2000. *Safring News* 29:88-89. Avian Demog. Unit, Dept. Stat. Sci., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosche 7701, South Africa. (When 40,000 penguins were threatened by a June oil spill off South Africa, an impressive cleaning and banding effort was mounted by South African banders, aided by visiting banders from Australia, England and the U.S. Although only about 3,000 penguin bands were available, enough new bands were manufactured on short notice to allow the banders

to band about half the penguins. 3674 observations of both oiled and unoiled, banded birds subsequently allowed observers to assess the effects of the oiling and subsequent clean-up on the birds. Of 1130 unoiled penguins from Dassen Island that were banded, 42% had been sighted back on the island by June, whereas only one of 2744 oiled adult penguins had been observed back there by that date. However, 24% had been resighted, as had 25% of 772 oiled juvenile penguins.) MKM

**Project "*Tringa glareola* 2000" –spring and autumn migration of Wood Sandpiper through Europe –a new Wader Study Group project.** M. Remisiewicz. 1997. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 84:21-22. (A combination of color bands and dyes are being used in a banding/observation project that started at two Polish and one Hungarian station in spring 1997 and expanded to 16 stations in six countries that August.) MKM

**SG** = Steven Gabrey

**MKM** = Martin K. McNicholl



**American Golden-Plover  
by George West**