

Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

LPBO staffing news. Anonymous. 2012. *BirdWatch Canada* 60:23. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Brief notes on Ross Wood, one of Long Point Bird Observatory's banders of the top five numbers of birds banded to date [20,078 birds of over 150 species] and one of North American Banding Council-certified trainers, Ana Maria Gonzalez-Prieto.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Are Eared Grebes with a chestnut red foreneck absent from North American population? A. Konter. 2013. *Blue Jay* 71:118-123 & inside back cover. Natl. Mus. Nat. Hist., 25 Rue Munster, L-2160, Luxembourg. (Seven records of chestnut red feathers in the upper breasts and necks of European Black-necked Grebes in Germany, Hungary and Spain caused the author to look for similar mutations in North American Eared Grebes in an extensive collection of his own photographs and others on the internet. He discovered eight such examples from Alberta, California, probably Colorado, Manitoba, Nevada and Utah. Detailed descriptions of these are included, emphasizing differences in the amounts and distribution of the chestnut feathers. Three photographs illustrate examples. A brief review of genetic mutations of coloration in birds is included. At least two of the North American examples were caring for chicks and two were paired with normally plumaged individuals.) MKM

Mystery photo. V. Kjøss. 2013. *Blue Jay* 71:158 & 71(3): back cover. (Photos of albino Piping Plover on Crane Beach in Sep 2013 at Ipswich, MA.) MKM

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) x Lazuli Bunting (*P. ameona*) with fledged young in East Kootenay, British Columbia. T. Wideski and P. Davidson. 2010. *Wildlife Afield* 7:281-283. (including brief descriptions of both parents.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Long-eared Owl nesting phenology and habitat in central Alberta. L.K. Priestley and C. Priestley. 2013. *Blue Jay* 71:124-131. Beaverhill Bird Observatory, Box 1418, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N5 (Nest banding data collected in central Alberta between 1987 and 2011 were used to estimate nesting/fledging chronology, with a graph indicating estimating laying dates between early April and mid-June. A second figure, on fledging dates, is missing. The text and two tables summarize several aspects of nest-sites and nesting habitat of 57 nests, including the numbers of 26 nests originally built by four birds and one mammal species.) MKM

The Greater Sage-Grouse in Canada. D. Hausleitner. 2012. *BirdWatch Canada* 60:4-6. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1N0 (Walk-in traps, net guns, drop traps and night lighting have been used to catch grouse and fit them with necklace-style radio transmitters, which help provide data on habitat selection, movements and population trends. Radio-telemetry indicates that habitat loss and cultivation of silver sagebrush are responsible for declines in Alberta and Saskatchewan, with normal to high breeding success [chick survival of 33-38%], but poor chick survival [about 18%] in Alberta.) MKM

Tree Swallow research at Long Point. S. Mackenzie. 2012. *BirdWatch Canada* 60:22. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1N0 (Brief overall summary of long-term banding-based research at Long Point, ON, started by D. Hussell and G. Holroyd in 1963 and continued by them, D. DeSteven, C. Francis, R. Montgomerie, R. Norris, T. Quinney, D. Winkler, T. Yezerinae and others, with over 30,000 swallows banded and data gathered on effects of habitat use, insect abundance and pesticide use on reproductive success at Long Point and elsewhere, including in collaboration with other studies on this species elsewhere.) MKM

An integrative approach to testing density affects in a migratory songbird, the Prothonotary Warbler, in southern Illinois. N. Davros, S. Wheeler, W. Schelsky, J. Brawn & J. Hoover. 2013.

Meadowlark 22:2-8. Illinois Ornithol. Soc., Box 931, Lake Forest, IL 60045 (In the Cache River Watershed in southern Illinois, a study was conducted on Prothonotary Warblers to answer two questions: 1) does male behavior [i.e. song rates, foraging behavior] vary in relation to conspecific neighborhood density? and 2) does conspecific density influence measures of reproductive success? Using a grid system of 340 nest boxes on two 50 ha study sites with two randomly selected 12.5 ha high-density subplots and two low-density subplots, all warblers using nest boxes and nearly all adult warblers seen at each site were captured and color-banded with a unique combination of a U.S.G.S. numbered aluminum band and colored plastic bands. Each season, at least four focal adult pairs were captured and bled for baseline plasma stress hormones. Mist nets were placed in front of nest boxes to capture adults as they arrived to feed nestlings. Banded males from both subplot types were chosen randomly for behavioral observations. Although the study more than doubled conspecific neighbor density for some pairs, overall there was not strong evidence that increased density had negative impacts on Prothonotary Warbler behavior or reproductive output.) GG

Delving into the lives of Hooded Warblers: a field biologist's story. J. Allair and D. Badzinski. 2004. *BirdWatch Canada* 26:4-7. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Observations of color-banded Hooded Warblers in southern Ontario, especially in St. Williams Forest, were started by Mary Gartshore in the 1980s and continued in 1999 and subsequent years by Long Point Bird Observatory staff. Banded warblers built up to four nests in a single season, starting as early as 16 May and starting new nests as late as 4 Aug. Chipping calls of females while feeding off nests helped researchers locate well-hidden nests. Observations of color-banded individuals also helped document considerable rates of predation and cowbird parasitism, but overall increases in successful nestings in spite of these high rates of predation and nest parasitism.) MKM

Migration monitoring moves north: Yukon's first bird banding station. T. Murphy-Kelly and B. Schonewille. 2004. *BirdWatch Canada* 26:14-

15. Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (During spring and summer 2001-2003, banding was conducted at Albert Creek near Watson Lake in the southeast Yukon, with 35-44 species banded per season, led by Wilson's Warbler [217 of 1244 birds banded in 2002 and 203 of 2173 birds banded in 2003]. Participating banders were from nearby areas, such as Watson Lake and Whitehorse, as well as such more distant sites as Vermont, North Dakota, Ontario, Germany and Great Britain.) MKM

Whooping Crane with leg band sighted near Mossbank, SK. D. Smith. 2013. *Blue Jay* 71:156. Box 202, Mossbank, SK S0H 3G0 (A 12-13 Nov 2012 sighting of pair of Whooping Cranes, one with a leg band, was unusually late for that location; six near Old Wives' Lake in Sep were seasonally more usual.) MKM

Last Mountain Bird Observatory – fall 2013. A.R. Smith. 2013. *Nature Views* 176:5. 318-113th St. W., Saskatoon, SK S7N 2L2 (During the 24th year of fall coverage, 151 person-days of effort resulted in the capture of 4121 new birds of 78 species, the second highest fall total to date, with 377 birds on 29 Sep, the third highest daily total to date. Yellow-rumped Warblers led the numbers captured [1856], with the peak on 19 Sep, eight days later than the long-term average. The first Sedge Wren captured brought the all-time species total to 113, with the third ever Broad-winged Hawk and a Sabine's Gull among other highlights.) MKM

Spring migratory pathway and migration chronology of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis interior*) wintering at the Santee National Wildlife Refuge, South Carolina. M.M. Giles., P.G.R. Jodice, R.F. Jodice, R.F. Baldwin, J.D. Stanton and M. Stanton. 2013. *Can. Field-Nat.* 127:17-25. [address]. (Satellite transmitters fitted to eight Canada Geese in SC during the winter of 2009-2010 left 5-7 Mar, six going to NC and NY, a mean distance between stop-over sites of 417 km, culminating 2838 km away on the eastern shore of Hudson Bay from 20-24 May. Two flew 420 and 365 km to OH, then arrived on 9 Jun, 3650 and 4020 km north along eastern Hudson Bay.) MKM

Mackenzie Nature Observatory 2013 annual banding report. Mugaha Marsh Banding Station 2013. V. Lambie. 2013. Mackenzie Nature Observatory, Box 1598, Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0. vi + 56 pp. (A brief notice of this station's 2012 report in *Wildlife Afield* 9:232, 2012 caused me to check for it on the internet, where I found their 2013 version, which I found as "well prepared and informative" as had the *Wildlife Afield* reviewer of the 2012 equivalent. The most recent report can be viewed on the internet at:

www.mackenzienatureobservatory.ca.) MKM

Manager's report. K. Fry. 2014. *Marsh Notes* winter 2014:4-5. B.C. Waterfowl Soc., 5191 Robertson Rd., Delta, BC V4K 3N2 (Neck-collars on two Cackling Geese observed in the Reifel Refuge of Ladner, BC revealed that one had been banded in OR, the other in AK. Many Mallard bands came from AK and AB. A color-banded Sandhill Crane fitted with a satellite transmitter has appeared at the sanctuary each fall since 2009 before wintering each year in CA.) MKM

Wild Research. C. Rock. 2012. *B.C. Nature* 50(4):27-28. 2258 Oxford St., Vancouver, BC V5L 1G1 (Over 400 Yellow Warblers were captured and banded at Iona Island, BC, during fall 2012, leading the 1204 new birds of 40 species and 221 previously banded birds captured there by 34 volunteers during 651 fall hours there.) MKM

The James Bay shorebird surveys. M. Peck and C. Frijs. 2014. *BirdWatch Canada* 66:4-5. c/o Bird Studies Canada N0E 1M0, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (Surveys conducted by several cooperating agencies annually since 1990 have detected color-banded Red Knots "from all wintering populations of the United States and South America." The groups plan to initiate a banding program, including 'nano-tags' with transmitters in 2014.) MKM

Birds of North Peace River (Fort St. John and vicinity), British Columbia, 1975-1999: part 2 Flycatchers through Old World sparrows. C. Siddle. 2010. *Wildlife Afield* 7:143-280. 6131 Silver Star Rd., Vernon, BC V1B 3P3 (A melanistic Tree Swallow was among a conspecific foraging flock in 1983 in Fort St. John and an

apparent Lincoln's x Song Sparrow at Boundary Lake in 2003. A Gray-cheeked Thrush banded in Beloit, IL, in 1973 was recovered in Fort St. John, BC in 1978.) MKM

Recovering endangered Piping Plovers on Canada's Atlantic Coast. S. Abbott. 2014. *BirdWatch Canada* 66:7-8. c/o Bird Studies Canada, Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0 (The majority of winter sightings of Piping Plovers color-banded along Canada's Atlantic Coast have been concentrated along the coasts of North Carolina and Maryland, with fewer reported along coasts from South Carolina to Florida. Nesting birds banded in Quebec have also been observed wintering in Cuba. Four of 57 banded during the winter in 2010 on Grand Bahama Island were found nesting that year in Atlantic Canada, including a male that raised two young on Cape Breton Island four months later, was seen on Grand Bahama again in Jan 2011, in North Carolina that spring and at a nest with four chicks on Cape Breton Island in Jun 2011.) MKM

Nineteen year old Red-tail[ed] Hawk. B. Anderson. 2012. *Wandering Tattler* 36(3):3. c/o Jude Grass, 17375 27A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 0E9 (Banded as a juvenile at Snohomish, WA, in Dec 1993 and recaptured nearby in Jun 2012, when the record longevity of Red-tailed Hawks was 30 yr, 8 mo.) MKM

Tiny bird backpacks give Vancouver researchers something to crow about. D. Moore. 2012. c/o J. Grass. 17375 27A Ave., BC V3S 0E9 (One-gram transmitters fitted on 40 Swainson's Thrushes in Jun 2010 by Kira Delmore, Darren Irwin and others indicated that the race breeding in Vancouver, BC, migrated south along a somewhat different route than the race from Kamloops, BC, but all the birds from a given site converged at some migratory stop-overs, such as all Kamloops birds stopping in Alabama before crossing the Gulf of Mexico.) MKM

Northern Saw-whet Owl migration. J. Acker. 2012. *Wandering Tattler* 36:15. c/o J. Grass. 17375 27A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 0E9. (During the fall of 2012, over 550 saw-whets had been banded at Rocky Point, BC, about halfway through their

fall banding season, suggesting that they were likely to surpass the previous seasonal high of 636. A very successful breeding season was indicated by the catch being 85% HY birds.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Seabird Islands No. 256. Roach Island, Lord Howe Group, New South Wales. N. Carlile, D. Priddle and H. Bower. 2013. *Corella* 37:82-85. Office of Environ. & Heritage, Box 1967, Hurtsville, New South Wales 2220, Australia (This, first of seven accounts of islands within the World Heritage List Lord Howe Group, is one of only two of the islands covered that includes banding, with steep terrain excluding banding by all but very skillful rock climbers from the vicinity of most nests and rough seas preventing frequent visits to most of the islands. Sooty Terns received the most bands of eight species banded between 1959 and 1971, with 602 adults and 4534 young banded and 17 recovered from nearby to 5900 km away in the Philippines, the latter four years after being banded. Of 121 adult and 89 nestling Masked Boobies banded, 11 were recovered from nearby to 1235 km away in New Caledonia, the oldest recovered in Queensland ten years after banding. No recoveries were known from the other six species.) MKM

Seabird Islands No. 262. Blackburn Island, Lord Howe Group, New South Wales. N. Carlile and D. Priddle. 2013. *Corella* 37:97-99. Office of Environ. & Heritage, 43 Bridge St., Hurtsville, New South Wales, 2220, Australia (The second of the islands mentioned in the previous abstract to include banding, starting on 9 Dec 1959, with 184 adult and 272 nestling Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and one adult Little Shearwater banded. Two Wedge-tailed breeding along the Lord Howe Island foreshore 11 and 14 years later were the only recoveries to date.) MKM

Analysis of breeding data of the Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena* near Manjimup, Western Australia. S. Simojoki and S.J.J.F. Davies. 2013. *Corella* 37:36-40. Dept. Environ. &

Agriculture, Curtin Univ. of Technol., G.P.O. Box 1987U, Perth 6845, West. Australia (Data collected by Dick and Molly Brown from 894 nests and 2260 birds banded after mist-net capture were analyzed and compared with data from two other Australian and one New Zealand population. Clutch size and breeding success are analyzed in comparison with degree of migration, dryness, closeness to water and latitude. Banding data provided no evidence of breeding-site tenacity at Manjimup, in agreement with only one of 213 banded nestlings in Tasmania returning to nest.) MKM

Record-breaking bird migration discovered. Anonymous. 2014. *Wandering Tattler* 37(7):7. c/o J. Grass. 1735 27A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 0E9 (A geolocator attached to a Red-necked Phalarope in Scotland documented its 16,000 mile [25,744 km] migration through Iceland, Greenland, the east coast of U.S.A. and the Caribbean Sea to the west coast of South America between Ecuador and Peru and back to Scotland.) MKM

Note: *Corella*, the journal of the Australian Bird Study Association, changed from a quarterly to an annual printed serial in 2014 and their quarterly newsletter will be published only online at www.absa.asn.au. Memberships/subscriptions are available for \$70.00 Australian (Single, Overseas) from ABSA at Box 1867, Penrith, BC NSW 2751, Australia or info@absa.asn.au. Thanks to ABSA Secretary Catherine Young for notification of changes.

GG = Glenn Gabanski

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Atlantic Puffins
by Fred Hartman