

MTAB 62
January 15, 1988

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Banders

FROM: Chief, Bird Banding Laboratory
Office of Migratory Bird Management
Laurel, Maryland 20708

SUBJECTS:

1. 1985 Banding accomplishments
2. Current Name and Address Listing
3. Banding schedule reporting
4. Improving banding schedules
5. Photocopied banding schedules
6. Use of proper sized bands
7. Band size recommendation
8. Additions to the Endangered Species List
9. BBM, Vol. 1 Corrections
10. Completion of pink card form 3-860a
11. Please reply on correspondence
12. Banders' phone numbers
13. Association of Field Ornithologists'
Annual Meeting
14. Eastern Bird Banding Association
Annual Meeting

1. Attached is our record of birds banded under your permit during 1985. Please check the listing and notify us of any problems or errors.
2. A Current Name and Address Listing is attached. Please make any necessary revisions and return it to us. Please do not use this listing for new requests. Please let us know of address changes as soon as you know the new address.
3. Schedules (form 3-860) for any birds banded during 1987 are due no later than January 31. This should include any complete strings as well as any partial strings not previously reported to us. We greatly appreciate the reporting of completed strings throughout the year as well as the reporting upon completion of seasonal banding projects. Please continue to report quarterly for complete strings and projects.
4. Major points which will improve banding schedules: a) put in continuity lines for identical data; b) use the "Remarks Section" liberally for age and sex clarification, especially for species not readily aged and/or sexed by plumage, and list techniques and references used; c) re-read Part 4 of the Bird Banding Manual when you prepare schedules, noting the sample schedule on Pages 4-16 and 4-17.

January 15, 1988
MTAG 82

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2. A Current Name and Address Listing is attached. Please make any necessary revisions and return it to us. Please do not use this listing for new requests. Please let us know of address changes as soon as you know the new address.
3. Schedules (form 3-360) for any birds banded during 1987 are due no later than January 31. This should include any complete strings as well as any partial strings not previously reported to us. We greatly appreciate the reporting of completed strings throughout the year as well as the reporting upon completion of seasonal banding projects. Please continue to report quarterly for complete strings and projects.
4. Major points which will improve banding schedules: a) put in continuity lines for identical data; b) use the "Remarks section" liberally for age and sex clarification, especially for species not readily aged and/or sexed by plumage; and c) list techniques and references used; d) re-read Part 4 of the Bird Banding Manual when you prepare schedules, noting the sample schedule on Pages A-6 and A-17.

5. Banding schedules should be original and on original schedule forms. Additionally, modern technology now enables us to consider inspection and acceptance of photocopies of schedules. Our standards are those of National Archives: "Produced by electrostatic photoduplication using dry toner and a fusing technique with heat and pressure (standard modern photocopied records)." The need to submit photocopies will still be considered the exception; because, if there is an original to copy, there is no reason the original can not be submitted. On the documents submitted, use of correction fluid, typing strip and pencil or carbon copies (or poor photocopies) are still not acceptable for our permanent schedule files. Computer-produced banding schedules are not acceptable except with previous authorization from the BBL.
6. When using a band size other than one recommended in the Bird Banding Manual, please indicate why you did so in the "Remarks Section" of the schedule. We wish to incorporate any geographic variation in Banding Manual recommended sizes and be aware of inadvertent errors. For most birds (some water birds excepted), the band must rotate freely around the leg (tarsus) and slide easily up and down to allow any accumulation of dirt to be flushed out. At the same time, the band must be small enough so that it does not slip over the lower or upper joints of the leg. Most young birds will frequently require a slightly larger size than their parents because of larger foot size at about the time of fledging. Careful study of the growth patterns is usually required before nestling banding is safe. If the bander does not have the appropriate band size for a particular bird, or does not know the proper time to band a nestling bird, that bird must be released or left unbanded. The general public, when encountering a banded bird, almost invariably complains about a leg band that is too small or too large for the bird.
7. The band size recommended for White Pelicans is 9. Please change this in your manual to 9 - 9C. Note that 9C should be used on all nestlings as well as on larger adult birds.
8. During 1987 the following species were listed as Endangered: Florida population of the Crested Caracara, Florida Scrub Jay, Black-capped Vireo, Inyo Brown Towhee and Roseate Tern. If you are banding or plan to band any of these birds, please get in touch with the appropriate U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office for Endangered Species permitting. Addresses and phone numbers are in the BBM.

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7. The band size recommended for White Pelicans is 2. Please change this in your manual to 2-20. Note that 20 should be used on all nestlings as well as on larger adult birds.

8. During 1987 the following species were listed as Endangered: Florida population of the Crested Condor, Florida Scrub Jay, Black-capped Vireo, Inyo Brown Towhee and Roseate Tern. If you are banding or plan to band any of these birds, please get in touch with the appropriate U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office for Endangered Species permitting. Addresses and phone numbers are in the BBL.

9. Please delete AOU's 191.9 and 205.0. Change the common name for AOU 191.0 to Least Bittern. All Sandhill Cranes should be reported using AOU 206.0.
10. Please fill-in pink cards (3-860a) with exactly the same information which will be on the banding schedule. Include the alpha location description as well as the lat-long coordinates. This will help us expedite the recovery and answer the finder more promptly.
11. It is very important that all banders answer correspondence promptly. If you cannot send the answer or resolve the problem, please notify us as soon as possible.
12. We very much appreciate the consideration of banders who have provided their daytime phone numbers to us. We maintain the numbers in our name and address file and having the numbers expedites our contact to banders.
13. The Association of Field Ornithologists' Annual Meeting is May 13-15, 1988 at Woodstock Vermont. For further information, contact Mrs. Sarah Laughlin, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Woodstock, Vermont 05091. Telephone (802) 457-2779.
14. The Eastern Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting is April 22-24, 1988 at Dinghman's Ferry, PA. For further information contact Judith Bell, RD. 3, Box 61, Newark Valley, New York 13811. Telephone (607) 642-8332.

George M. Jonkel

9. Please delete AOU's 191.9 and 202.0. Change the common name for AOU 191.0 to Least Bittern. All Sandhill Cranes should be reported using AOU 208.0.
10. Please fill-in pink cards (3-800a) with exactly the same information which will be on the banding schedule. Include the alpha location description as well as the lat-long coordinates. This will help us expedite the recovery and answer the finder more promptly.
11. It is very important that all banders answer correspondence promptly. If you cannot send the answer or resolve the problem, please notify us as soon as possible.
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