

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Banders

FROM: Chief, Bird Banding Laboratory  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBJECTS:

1. Status of Computer Production of Banding Schedules
2. Current Name and Address Listing
3. Corrections Volume I
4. Corrections Volume II
5. 1985 Banding Schedules due
6. Completion of Card Form 3-860a
7. 1983 Banding accomplishments
8. Computerization of auxiliary marking
9. Piping Plover listed as an endangered species
10. Computer edits of banding records
11. Banding Association Meetings

1. We have been accepting computer produced banding schedules for about 10 years. Information on the procedure and criteria is available from us upon request. So far we have been able to accept only tapes for direct input into our computer file. During 1986 we expect to obtain a microcomputer in our Electronic Data Processing Section (EDP). This microcomputer can be used to input banding information stored on discs into the disc storage in our Central Processing Unit. Alan Davenport, in the EDP Section, is adapting a program for schedule production from home computers and he is also working on our procedure for acceptance of the data on discs. Until he has this completed and standard formats are defined, we will defer acceptance of banding data on discs. We will have a letter or special MTAB advising cooperators when we can accomodate the home computer hackers.
2. A current name and address listing is attached. Please note format change. Make any necessary revisions and return same to us. Please do not use this form for new requests.
3. Please make the following additions or corrections to Vol. I (1984 ed.), BBM.

<u>PAGE/ITEM</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO/ADD</u>
2B-1	Gallinule, Hawaiian	<u>Moorhen, Hawaiian</u>
2B-3	<i>Sterna albifrons browni</i>	<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>
2B-3	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>
5-24	14 (between codes 11&13)	12
5-29(Code 25)	See codes 40,44,45	See codes <u>40,44,55</u>
5-30(Code 44)	(add)	<u>See also Code 55</u>
5A-1(Sp.No.)	010.0	<u>009.0</u>
5A-1	(add)	<u>010.0 Pacific Loon 7B</u>
5A-5(Sp.No.133.0)	Black Duck	<u>American Black Duck</u>

<u>PAGE/ITEM</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO/ADD</u>
5A-6(Sp.No.171.3) 5A-9(Sp.No.287.0)	Less White-fronted Goose American Black Oyster- catcher	<u>Lesser</u> White-fronted Goose Black Oystercatcher
5A-9(Sp.No.314.1) 5A-10(Sp.No.343.0)	3A 5-6 **Size 6 should be used on all nestlings	5 5-6 **
5A-11(Sp.No.372.0) 5A-11(Sp.No.373.3) 5A-11(Sp.No.377.0)	4A--4 373.3 Remove lock-on symbol <u>and</u> 7A--6--7B	4A--4---3A 373.2 7A--7B*
5A-13(Sp.No.436.3) 5A-14(Sp.No.455.1)	Green Carib (Add)	*Use 7A-7B <u>Short</u> butt- end bands only Green-throated Carib La Sagra's Flycatcher- Myiarchus sagrae IB
5A-14(Sp.No.455.3)	(Add)	Stolid Flycatcher-- Myiarchus tolidus IB
5A-14(Sp.No.455.4)	(Add)	Less Antillean Flycatcher- Myiarchusberi IB
5A-19(Sp.No.606.1) 5A-19(Sp.No.622.1) 5A-19(Sp.No.622.2) 5A-19(Sp.No.614.0) 5A-19(Sp.No.615.0) 5A-22(Sp.No.727.0) 5A-24(Sp.No.782.0) 5A-26(Sp.No.909.3)	Blue-headed Euphoria 622.1 622.2 I I IB IB--IA Delete	<u>Antillean</u> Euphoria 622.6 622.1 I-0 I-0 IB--I I--IB--IA

4. Please correct Couplet IA in the Tree Swallow (Sp.No.614.0) to "Plumage uniform gray or gray-brown to brown above, dusky-white below." Also, the nestling period should be 18-24 days and banding 11-15 days. The Violet-green Swallow (Sp.No. 615.0) nestling period should be 18-24 days and banding 11-15 days.

5. All unreported 1985 bandings (complete and incomplete strings) are due in the BBL no later than January 31, 1986. Please review Vol. I, Part 4 when preparing schedules.

6. Pink cards (Form 3-860a) should be completed promptly in black ink. All data must be provided and proper codes used. The data should be the same as that which will be put on the banding schedule. Status codes requiring an explanation on a schedule must also be explained on the pink card.

7. Attached is our record of birds banded under your permit during 1983. Please check the listing and notify us of any problems or errors.

8. We now have a functional computerized storage system for auxiliary-marking. Although we still discourage the use of auxiliary markers, we realize that many projects require individual identification by means other than recapturing. The new system will allow for better response to the public on sightings of auxiliary markers, as well as provide an easy reference to people doing research on various species.

To better accommodate the new system, we must make some improvements in the procedure of issuing authorizations. Please do not request auxiliary marking without first reading paragraphs 50-56 in the Bird Banding Manual Vol. 1, Part 2. If you do not provide information on all 5 points listed in paragraph 54, it could delay the issuing of your authorization to the point of endangering your proposed project. Please also remember that a very large percentage of auxiliary-marking projects end in failure because they were not well thought out. There are 7 basic questions to consider in paragraph 53. Careful consideration of these, of other questions specific to your study, and of the possibility that your needs can be met without auxiliary-marking are essential.

Our system is also limited in space. We believe that no more than 10 species should be considered for any one project. The time involved in capturing a large enough sample size of more than 10 species could ruin a project. We are also limited geographically to 3 states and 5 counties per state with each authorization. There are legitimate exceptions to all of these, but we feel requests beyond these limits should be very well justified. As we convert to the new system, it is appropriate to request that all banders make a special effort to evaluate their current and projected needs for auxiliary-marking, remembering that the authorization expires with the permit every two years and renewal is not automatic, the bander must request it. Please use the back of your enclosed "CNA" to request renewals. New authorizations must be requested in separate correspondence.

9. Any researcher contemplating banding Piping Plovers in the United States, or initiating banding of any of the endangered bird species should request a permit from the Federal Wildlife Permit Office, 1000 North Glebe Road, Room 611, Arlington, Va 22201. Permit issuance may take more than several months so it is advisable to initiate permit action without any delay.

10. During each weekly or bi-weekly computer input run, banding records are edited for many "errors" including unusual occurrence. Kick-out records are checked for possible data entry errors or errors on the original schedule. Documentation will be requested for unusual records and will become part of the banders' permanent files and more importantly, will be available in the future for anyone using these records.

11. The 1986 annual NEBBA meeting is May 3 & 4 at Natick, Massachusetts. For additional information contact Sarah Laughlin, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Woodstock, VT. 05091. The 1986 EBBA meeting is April 25-27 at Town House Motel, Hightstown, N.J. For further information contact Charl Warburton, Mine Rd., Box 332 D, Pennington, N.J. 08534. Phone number 609-466-3322.

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