

BIRD BANDING LABORATORY

Memo To All Banders: 95



Bruce Peterjohn, BBL Chief

BBL Staffing Changes

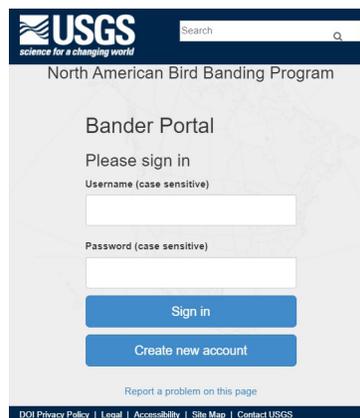
Bruce Peterjohn, the Chief of the BBL, retired December 31, 2019. Two BBL staff members will serve as Acting Chief to aid in this transition: Jennifer Malpass, Ph.D (January - April) and Antonio Celis-Murillo, Ph. D. (May - August). Important BBL permitting and coordination responsibilities will be assumed by existing BBL staff during the transition to a new Chief. Banders can help the staff during this time by submitting clean banding data promptly after the field season, using BANDIT 4.0 to submit recapture data, and allowing additional time when making requests for permit modifications, bands or data.

Request for Banding Data Due to Encounter

If you receive a Request for Banding Data Due to Encounter, please submit your banding data in a timely manner. Do NOT include the banding data in the body of the email response to the Lab. Email Bandit submission files to bandit@usgs.gov.

Bander Portal Update

The Bander Portal allows US-permitted banders access to a variety of self-serve resources, including the ability to order bands, update contact information, request band transfers, and confirm submission files. Additional features, such as bander-specific communications, are in development. Banders in the US who have not yet created a Bander Portal account are encouraged to do so. Access the Bander Portal from the BBL homepage or at this link: (www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/Bander_portal/login/main_login.php).



The screenshot shows the Bander Portal login interface. At the top, there is the USGS logo and a search bar. Below that, it says "North American Bird Banding Program". The main heading is "Bander Portal". There are two input fields: "Username (case sensitive)" and "Password (case sensitive)". Below these fields are two buttons: "Sign in" and "Create new account". At the bottom, there is a link "Report a problem on this page" and a footer with "DOI Privacy Policy | Legal | Accessibility | Site Map | Contact USGS".

Social Media for the BBL

The BBL is improving its online presence through the release of news stories on the BBL homepage under the "News" tab and contributing content to the PWRC Facebook page. The BBL would like to highlight collaborative efforts within the banding community. If you have social media content you would like to share, please contact Chelsea Steinbrecher-Hoffmann via email at csteinbrecher-hoffmann@contractor.usgs.gov. You can like and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/USGSPatuxent/

Submitting data in Bandit 4.0

The desktop application Bandit 4.0 is designed to automatically submit data files using Java on your computer, via BBL's FTP site. If you see an FTP connection error after your submission, go to your Documents folder on your computer, locate the Submission, Mods or Recaps .tab files created by Bandit when you attempted the submission. Creation date/time are part of the file name, i.e. Bandit_Submission_(permit number)_yyyymmddtime.tab. Send the .tab file(s) to bandit@usgs.gov. Please no Bandit backup files; backup files are for your reference. BBL will send you a receipt confirmation within one business day to the email address listed in your "Settings" screen in Bandit and to the master bander (if different). If you aren't sure which files have been received at BBL, log in to the Bander Portal and go to Data>Data Submission History. Example .tab files below.

Bandit_Mods_44444_201912110916.tab
Bandit_Recaps_44444_202001020930.tab
Bandit_Submission_44444_202001021920.tab

Upcoming Changes to the BBL

Reportband.gov allows the public to engage in virtual citizen science by reporting encounters of banded or color-marked birds. The BBL anticipates the release of the new reportband.gov website in 2020. The new site will have an improved user interface with support from the Amazon Cloud to increase reliability. Additionally, staff are developing requirements for a web-based data request process that will allow banders and members of the public to access data on demand.