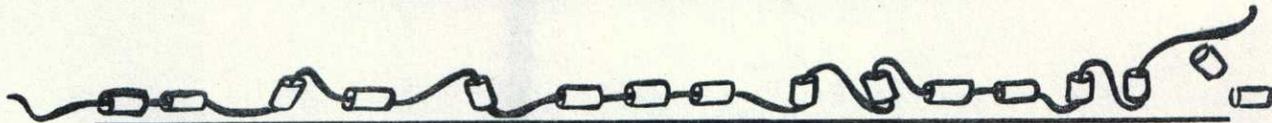


BIRD BANDING NOTES

ISSUED BY THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FOR THE INFORMATION OF BIRD-BANDING COOPERATORS



Vol. 3

Washington, D. C., August 1941

No. 3

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fish and Wildlife Service greatly appreciates the work that its bird-banding cooperators have done during the past year, and trusts that it will have their continued assistance. Every effort will be made to issue the usual report of the year's work during the coming autumn.

It is hoped that it will not be necessary to curtail the banding work. Nevertheless, it is possible that the regulations regarding the use of aluminum for nondefense purposes may affect the supply of bands, especially of the larger sizes. Enough bands are on hand for present needs, but any cooperator who finds himself overstocked with large bands (sizes 6, 7, and 8) will do the Service a favor by returning those he is not likely to use.

Cooperators are requested not to undertake large-scale banding projects without first consulting the Washington office. It may be that some highly desirable projects will have to be postponed because of lack of bands, though we hope not.

New band size. -- The contract for bands for the current fiscal year contains specifications for a new size to be designated size 1B. In inside diameter it is midway between sizes 1 and 1A, and it has been adopted primarily for use on Chimney Swifts. For most of these birds size 1 is satisfactory, but for an occasional bird size 1A has been found necessary. Using a band of the wrong size on one of these birds is likely to result in an injury that may prove fatal. It is believed that the new size will be satisfactory for all birds of this species, and it may fit better such birds as have heretofore been banded loosely with size 1A because size 1 was a trifle too tight.

Waterfowl banding. -- At the beginning of the present fiscal year it was decided to put into effect the policy with regard to the banding of migratory waterfowl toward which the Service has been working since the establishment of the waterfowl-refuge system. The increased personnel of the national wildlife refuges, together with the cooperation of State game officials, makes it possible to establish and operate waterfowl-banding stations in nearly all strategic areas. Therefore, in the future, waterfowl banding will be done chiefly on publicly owned refuge areas. Occasionally an exception may be made in favor of work on a privately owned sanctuary no part of which is operated for gain or open to shooting. Each case of this kind will be considered on its own merits.

BIRD BANDING NOTES