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Memorandum to All Banders, 19

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MEMORANDUM

TO : All Banders

FROM : Chief, Bird Banding Laboratory
Office of Migratory Bird Management

December 12, 1972
MTAB 19

- SUBJECT: 1. Recommendations on use of the Manual
2. Color-marking workshop at North American Wildlife Conference
3. Banding locations listings
4. Annual Report
5. End-of-the-Year Report and Salvage Report

1. Banders sent in several recommendations on more efficient use of the Bird-Banding Manual. Appendices A and B to Part 5, the species lists, can be placed in a separate 3-ring binder. This makes the Manual handier for field work. Also, tab index sheets can be obtained in an office supply store and be used to identify each of the parts.
2. A color-marking workshop is being planned at the time of the 1973 North American Wildlife Conference in Washington, D. C. Brian Sharp will chair the March 18 workshop. It will be held during related meeting time of the Conference. The main topic will be problems of color marking Canada geese and development of a continental marking scheme, although experience gained with other species may well be relevant. Any banders interested are invited to attend. When the program is printed, we can advise interested banders of specifics. Hopefully, a system devised to coordinate the color-marking of Canada geese will find wide application with other species as well.
3. Most banders have reviewed, corrected and returned a copy of their banding locations gazetteer. From your comments we are led to believe the purpose of this project was misunderstood.

Our attempt was two-fold:

- A. To give you an opportunity to review the coordinates we are using for specific banding locations.
- B. To get banders to review the names of their banding locations and, where possible, to consolidate entries. It was hoped that once you had these locations listed you would decide on an alpha description for a location and use that consistently when submitting schedules in the future. This would not only be a convenience for you but would also facilitate editing your schedules in our shop.

Whatever your reactions were to the request, we thoroughly appreciate your cooperation.

We plan to ask you to make such a review every other year, so if you have any suggestions or constructive criticism concerning the gazetteer we'd like to receive them.

4. At the request of at least two of the banding associations, the Bird Banding Laboratory has agreed to compile totals for bandings accomplished in 1971. This will eliminate the necessity of banders having to report their accomplishments twice, once to the Banding Lab and once to his or her association. The totals will have the advantage of being more complete than those now compiled in the associations' annual reports; moreover, the laborious task of compilation can be completed more efficiently and accurately by computer.

Two compilations will be prepared. One report, which will be furnished to each association for its use, will be a list of the number of birds banded in 1971, categorized by species, state, and permit number. A second report, which will be sent to the banders directly, will be prepared according to the following format:

Species Name	Total banded 1971	Total banded 1967	Recoveries of '67-banded birds processed to date (excluding How Obtained 89 and 99)	Foreign retraps of '67-banded birds processed to date (How Obtained 89 only)
			Number %	Number %

This table will give the bander an idea of the number of encounter records (excluding his or her own station returns) to expect from a given amount of banding effort within the first five years.

If a bander is interested in a particular species, and in the event that a banding association discontinues publishing an annual report by species, state and permit number (bander), either the Bird Banding Laboratory or the banding association will be able to provide a list of those banders who have trapped and banded that species in the past.

Since the Bird Banding Laboratory's banding files are updated annually in August, the above-mentioned reports will, when the system is operational, be prepared in the fall of the year following the year covered by the reports, for example, in the fall of 1973 for 1972 bandings.

5. Attached are copies of the End-of-the-Year Report and the Salvage Report. Please complete these and mail them in by January 31. We appreciate the fine past cooperation of the vast majority of banders in getting the End-of-the-Year and Salvage Reports in promptly.

George M. Jonkel

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Enclosures