

WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

Forty-third Annual Meeting - 25-26 May, 1968

The Western Bird Banding Association held its 43rd Annual Meeting in Grand Junction, Colorado, on 25-26 May, 1968. This was a joint meeting with Colorado Field Ornithologists, hosted by a committee from the latter organization, with Dr. William A. Davis, chairman.

Registration and social hour from 9 to 10 a.m. were followed by a business meeting of WBBA, at which President Alan Craig presided. Minutes of the 1967 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was not available.

Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt was appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board for BIRD BANDER. In promotion of a membership drive copies of WESTERN BIRD BANDER have been sent to prospective members. Results of the drive are not yet known.

It was announced that articles of incorporation have been prepared, together with necessary changes in by-laws, and will be submitted to members for approval.

Pres. Craig expressed appreciation to out-going officers and to Eleonor Radke for her put-standing work as editor. He invited inspection of banding equipment, sent by Jay Sheppard, which was on display. Eleanor Radke expressed thanks on behalf of WBBA to Alan Craig for his very proficient work as president of the organization.

The nominating committee (Howard Cogswell, Enid Austin, Elgin Hurlbert) submitted the following slate of officers:

President: Dr. Ronald A. Ryder, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

First Vice-president: Dr. Bruce Swinhart, Carmichael, California.

Second Vice-president: Dr. Wm. J. Hamilton, University of California, Davis, California.

Secretary: Allegra Collister, 706 Hover Road, Longmont, Colorado.

Business Manager: Dr. Thomas Rodgers, Chico State College, Chico, California. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot cast for the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee. Carried.

Alan Craig then turned the meeting over to Dr. Ryder, incoming president, who introduced Earl Baysinger of the Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland. Representing Chendler S. Robbins, Mr. Baysinger explained the Coordinated Breeding Bird Survey, purpose of which is to detect variations in song bird populations from year to year. An effort will be made to correlate this survey with numbers of birds banded each year. Volunteers from Colorado were solicited to help with this project.

Mr. Baysinger outlined some of the difficulties confronting the banding office, and asked for the cooperation of all banders in alleviating the many problems. Following a question and answer session, the meeting was adjourned.

At the joint afternoon session, the following papers were presented:

Starling and Blackbird Trapping and Banding in the West -

Joseph L. Guerino, Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, Denver.

House Sparrows and Western Encephalitis - Richard O. Hayes, U.S. Public Health Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Techniques of White-tailed Ptarmigan Population Studies in Colorado -

Cleit E. Braun, Glenn E. Rogers, and Raymond K. Schmidt, Fort Collins.

Trapping, Banding, and Marking Wild Turkeys in Colorado - Gary T. Myers, Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department, Montrose, Colorado.

Colorado's Role in the Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey of North America - Donald M. Thatcher, Colorado Field Ornithologists.

Introduced Game Birds in Colorado - Glenn E. Rogers, Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department, Denver.

Status and Distribution of the Greater Sandhill Crane in western North America - Carroll D. Littlefield and Ronald A. Ryder, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Radio Telemetry Studies of Greater Prairie Chickens in Kansas - Jerome J. Oebule, Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department, Denver, Colorado.

The Birds of Colorado National Monument - Alan Eliassen and William Davis, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Speaker at the banquet Saturday was Edger Muhr, who presented his fine bird movies.

Western Bird Banding Association extends its thanks to Dr. William A. Davis, chairman of the meeting; to Dr. Ronald A. Ryder, chairman of the papers session; and to Mrs Lucy Ela, chairman of the hospitality committee, for their work in making this such an enjoyable and informative Annual Meeting.

EXHIBITS

Equipment on display in the meeting room included markers for wild Turkeys; a special hand lens to aid in determining degree of skull ossification; a radiotelemetry exhibit, with transmitters which can be strapped to birds, mice, and coyotes; and a distress call recording.

SUNDAY FIELD TRIPS

Those in attendance were divided into two groups for the Sunday field trips, both to Colorado National Monument by different routes. Highlight of the day was a demonstration of the technique of cannon net capture of flocks of birds, by Dr. Ronald A. Ryder. The net was mounted on a pick-up truck, and was fired from inside the truck, allowing the operator to drive fairly close to the birds he intends to capture. A most interesting demonstration.

Allegre Collister
Allegre Collister, Sec. Pro Tem