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Annual report to banders — Summary of bird banding in Canada in 1978

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Introduction

This report summarizes bird banding activity in Canada for the year 1978. It provides information on the numbers of banders and birds banded, and the distribution of bandings by species and province or territory.

The information is compared with results for 1977, published in a previous report (Poulin *et al.* 1979).

Methods

We selected Canadian banding records for the calendar year 1978 from the North American Bird Banding files, using November 1979 as the cut-off date for entries into the computer.

The name designated by the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) was used wherever species names and numbers in the North American Bird Banding Manual differed from those published in the AOU checklist and its supplements (Appendix 1).

Although bandings of unidentified birds do not provide useful information on species numbers or movements, we have included such records in our tables for the sake of completeness.

Results

The numbers of banders and birds banded increased in 1978 over previous years (Table 1). Although the number of master permit holders dropped from 228 in 1977 to 222 in 1978, the number of subpermit holders increased from 527 to 569. The number of auxiliary marking authorizations issued (e.g., colour-banding permits) also increased from 165 in 1977 to 280 in 1978.

The 154 active banders banded a total of 274 203 birds in 1978, a greater number than in any of the previous 11 years (Tables 1 and 2). They banded 298 species (not including a total of 13 hybrids, subspecies and birds unidentified as to species) (Table 2). The total for 1977 was 301 species and nine hybrids and others (Poulin *et al.* 1979).

Ontario had the greatest numbers of birds and species banded (97 795 birds of 231 species); it also had by far the largest number of active banders (75) (Table 2). The least amount of banding was reported from the Yukon, with only two active banders, who banded 200 birds of six species. These numbers reflect the ecological differences between the two areas, as well as the fact that the banding effort is generally concentrated near population centres.

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Figure 1, a map of banding locations in Canada in 1978, shows the distribution of banding sites to be approximately the same as for 1977 (Poulin *et al.* 1979).

Banding of migratory game birds*, especially waterfowl, is often carried out by federal and provincial agencies for purposes of population management. It also often involves large numbers of birds of a few different species which suffer high mortality due to hunting.

Table 3 shows the percentages of non-game and game birds banded in each of the provinces and territories. Except in Prince Edward Island and the Northwest and Yukon territories, more species of non-game than game birds were banded in every province. However, the numbers of game birds banded exceeded those of non-game birds in seven of the 12 regions.

Table 4 lists the number of birds banded in each province and territory in 1978 by species.

The species banded in 1978 differed from those banded in 1977 to some extent. Many species which are not common or are hard to band (due to habitat or behaviour) were not recorded in one year or the other. Table 5 gives a list of these species for both years.

Table 6 lists the three most frequently banded game and non-game species in each province and territory for 1978.

Table 1
Yearly totals of bird banding permits issued and birds banded in Canada, 1966-78

Year	Master permits†	Sub-permits	Aux. marking authorizations	Birds banded
1966	199	113	—	167 667
1967	214	139	—	173 080
1968	218	191	—	131 650
1969	211	162	19	166 812
1970	206	221	42	204 776
1971	205	261	68	160 571
1972	210	219	65	152 094
1973	194	299	52	121 756
1974	187	311	54	155 315
1975	209	377	123	172 125
1976	207	422	136	206 493
1977	228	527	165	238 364
1978	222	569	280	274 203

†Includes inactive as well as active banders; the yearly totals represent all permits issued.

*In the category of migratory game birds, we include the family Anatidae, the family Gruidae except Whooping Cranes, the family Rallidae, the American Woodcock, Common Snipe, and Mourning Dove. Game birds which were not hunted in Canada in 1978 because of closed seasons were not included.

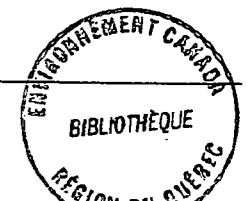


Figure 1
Bird banding sites in Canada in 1978

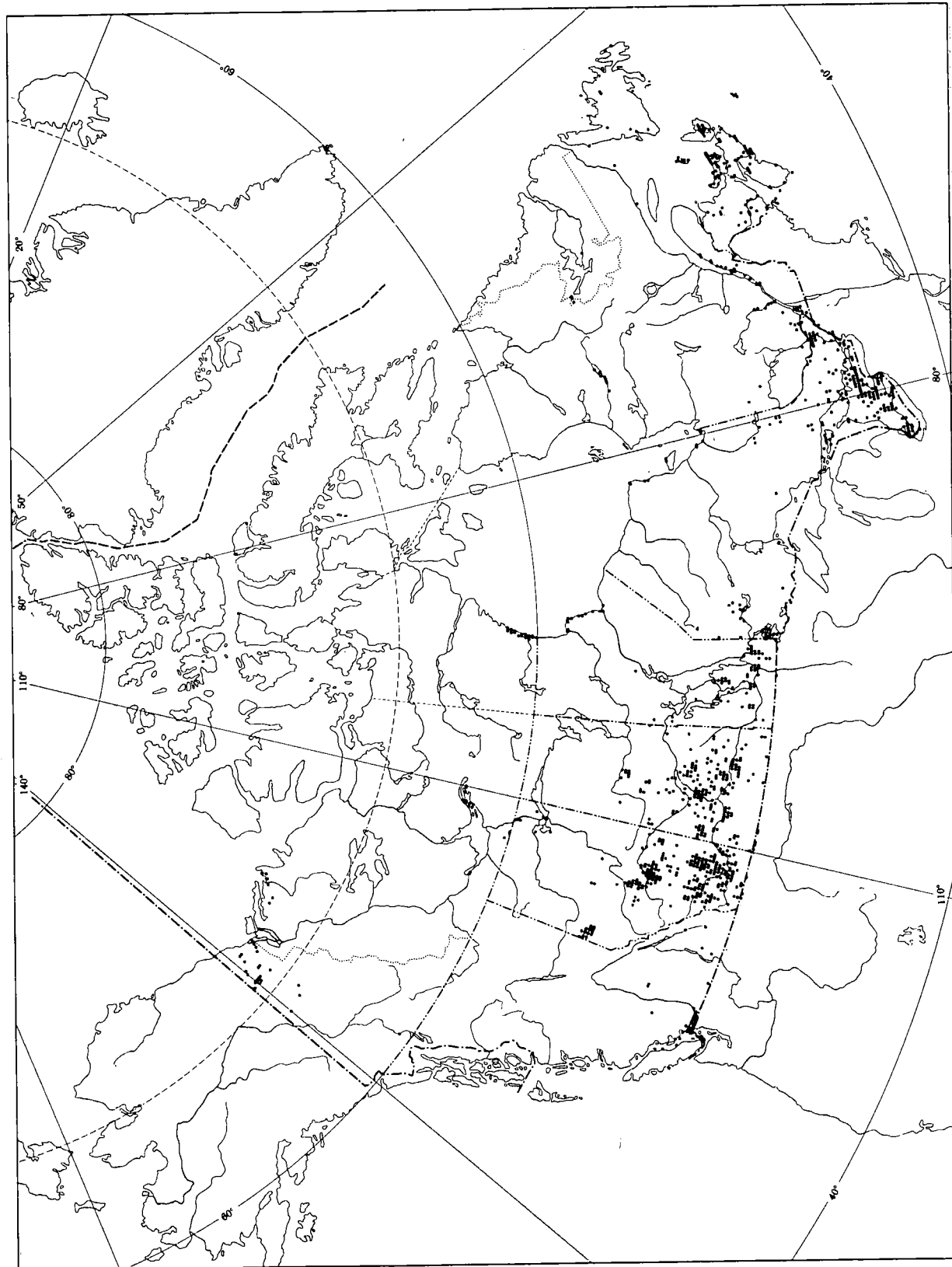


Table 2
Numbers of bird banders and birds banded by province and territory, 1978

Prov. or terr.	Master permits		Birds banded		Species banded	
	No. active*	% total†	No.	% total	No.	% total
Nfld.	4	3	2 619	1	42	14
PEI	3	2	1 882	1	18	6
NS	6	4	7 679	3	92	30
NB	8	5	5 112	2	83	27
Que.	17	11	6 107	2	89	30
Ont.	75	49	97 795	36	231	78
Man.	12	8	29 072	11	82	27
Sask.	13	8	27 803	10	76	25
Alta.	18	12	28 724	10	122	41
BC	6	4	6 593	2	51	17
NWT	8	5	60 617	22	36	12
Yuk.	2	1	200	0	6	2
Total	154	—	274 203	100	298	—

*The total here is actually 172 instead of 154 due to individual banders banding in more than one province.

†This column does not total 100% because of banders banding in more than one province.

Table 3
Percentage of non-game and game birds banded by province or territory, 1978

Prov. or terr.	Non-game birds		Game birds	
	% species banded	% birds banded	% species banded	% birds banded
Nfld.	95	100	5	0
PEI	30	7	70	93
NS	83	48	17	52
NB	84	61	16	39
Que.	84	52	16	48
Ont.	82	81	18	19
Man.	72	26	28	74
Sask.	70	19	30	81
Alta.	83	37	17	63
BC	79	85	21	15
NWT	49	0	51	100
Yuk.	33	25	67	75
Total	85	44	15	56

Table 6
Most frequently banded game and non-game species by province or territory, 1978

Prov.	Game birds			Non-game birds		
	AOU no.	Species	No.	AOU no.	Species	No.
Nfld.	1500	Ring-necked Duck	3	0510	Herring Gull	685
	1390	American Green-winged Teal	2	1060	Leach's Storm-Petrel	559
PEI	1330	Black Duck	1 140	6550	Myrtle Warbler	179
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	310	1190	Great Cormorant	100
	1370	American Wigeon	87	2770	Piping Plover	19
NS	1330	Black Duck	1 995	3640	Osprey	14
	1390	American Green-winged Teal	422	4860	Common Raven	971
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	656	5410	Ipswich Sparrow	294
NB	1330	Black Duck	764	0470	Great Black-backed Gull	226
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	694	1060	Leach's Storm-Petrel	446
	1370	American Wigeon	124	7580	Swainson's Thrush	252
Que.	1330	Black Duck	1 107	0510	Herring Gull	250
	1390	American Green-winged Teal	814	1200	Double-crested Cormorant	500
	1320	Mallard	721	0540	Ring-billed Gull	366
Ont.	1320	Mallard	7 465	5280	Common Redpoll	298
	1720	Canada Goose	3 482	5280	Common Redpoll	6 692
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	2 196	2460	Semipalmated Sandpiper	6 024
Man.	1320	Mallard	10 471	0540	Ring-billed Gull	5 829
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	4 840	5280	Common Redpoll	3 561
	1690	<i>Snow Goose (white phase)</i>	2 161	6520	Yellow Warbler	954
Sask.	1320	Mallard	8 723	5170	Purple Finch	417
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	5 862	6140	Tree Swallow	1 199
	1720	Canada Goose	3 175	6180	Bohemian Waxwing	704
Alta.	1320	Mallard	5 872	6180	Mountain Bluebird	626
	1400	Blue-winged Teal	4 145	6470	Tennessee Warbler	1 459
	1720	Canada Goose	4 127	6140	Tree Swallow	1 284
BC	1720	Canada Goose	834	6882	House Sparrow	859
	1440	Wood Duck	159	2470	Western Sandpiper	875
	1320	Mallard	17	2430	Dunlin	774
NWT	1690	<i>Snow Goose (white phase)</i>	40 483	7250	Long-billed Marsh Wren	729
	1691	<i>Snow Goose (blue phase)</i>	12 747	0310	Thick-billed Murre	104
	1720	Canada Goose	2 107	3760	Snowy Owl	37
Yuk.	1710	White-fronted Goose	2	3520	Bald Eagle	18
	1720	Canada Goose	1	1800	Whistling Swan	18
	1390	American Green-winged Teal	1	1800	Whistling Swan	147
				3560	Peregrine Falcon	34
				3547	Gyrfalcon	15

Appendix I

Species names used in Table 4 where latest AOU changes are different from those currently used in the North American Bird Banding Manual

According to the Banding Manual	According to latest AOU changes	Name used in this publication
Snow Goose — white phase	Snow Goose	Snow Goose — white phase
Snow Goose — blue phase		Snow Goose — blue phase
Shoveler	Northern Shoveler	Northern Shoveler
Red-tailed Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk
Harlan's Hawk*		
Upland Plover	Upland Sandpiper	Upland Sandpiper
Knot	American Knot	American Knot
Dipper*	American Dipper	American Dipper
Catbird	Gray Catbird	Gray Catbird
Myrtle Warbler	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Myrtle Warbler
Aubudon's Warbler*		
Baltimore Oriole	Northern Oriole	Baltimore Oriole
Bullock's Oriole*		
Ipswich Sparrow	subspecies of Savannah Sparrow	Ipswich Sparrow
Slate-coloured Junco	Dark-eyed Junco	Slate-coloured Junco
Oregon Junco		Oregon Junco
Trail's Flycatcher		Trail's Flycatcher
Alder (song type "fee-bee-o")	Alder Flycatcher	Alder Flycatcher
Willow (song type "fitz-bew")	Willow Flycatcher	Willow Flycatcher

*Not banded in Canada in 1978.

Acknowledgements

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References

Poulin, R.M.; Newell, K.L.; O'Donnell, S.J.; Wendt, S. 1979. Annual Report to Banders — Summary of birds banded in Canada in 1977. Can. Wildl. Serv. Prog. Notes No. 102.

Errata

Please note some corrections to be made in the previous report (Poulin *et al.* 1979) as follows:

Page 6 (Table 3), Black-necked Stilt—2 banded in Saskatchewan should be 2 banded in Alberta.

Page 9 (Table 3), Ipswich Sparrow—482 banded in Prince Edward Island should be 482 banded in Nova Scotia.

Page 9 (Table 3), Clay-coloured Sparrow—54 banded in Alberta should be 54 banded in Saskatchewan; 8 banded in British Columbia should be 8 banded in Alberta.

