

**‘Banding Round-Up: A complete list 1992-1996’, compiled by E.B. Dettmann of ABBBS. It is ‘A revised list of recoveries of Australian-banded waders over 100km from the banding place, between January 1992 and February 1996 ...’. It contained no records of Banded Stilt recoveries.**

**JL searched on-line for more-recent lists such as these but was unsuccessful. Consider having a look through more-recent hard copies of Corella when next at DPaW library in Kensington.**

# Stilt 28 - April 1996

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★ There are no Banded Stilt in this list (Jan'92 - Feb'96)  
 03/02/2014



## BANDING ROUND-UP: A COMPLETE LIST 1992-1996.

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A revised list of recoveries of Australian-banded waders over 100km from the banding place, between January 1992 and February 1996, is presented. The last complete round-up is presented in Pook (1992), and interim reports can be found in Dettmann (1993, 1994a,b, 1995). This list supersedes the before mentioned reports. A revised list of the symbols used in the presentation of data is shown in Table 1. Recoveries are presented in Table 2. The layout of data in Table 2 is shown below:

**Line 1:** band number, banding place, co-ordinates, date of banding, age, sex, bander  
**Line 2:** recovery method, recovery status, recovery place, co-ordinates, recovery date, age, sex, finder  
**Line 3:** distance and direction between banding and recovery places, time elapsed between banding and recovery

Permission must be sought from the banders and the ABBBS before using these data in publications.

**Table 1. Symbols used in Table 2.**

<b>Age code:</b>	48 = colour marking sighted in field;
U = unknown;	49 = band number/colour marking sighted on bird in nest;
P = nestling;	54 = beachwashed;
J = juvenile;	55 = found in/on car, ship etc probably encountered elsewhere;
1 = within the first year of life;	57 = band found on species different to that banded;
+1 = within the first year or older;	58 = leg or wing and band only found;
2 = within the second year;	61 = shot - reason unknown;
+2 = within the second year or older;	63 = taken for scientific study;
<b>Sex:</b>	67 = taken for food or feathers;
U = unknown;	68 = shot for food or sport;
M = male;	81 = taken by domestic or wild cat;
F = female.	85 = taken by a wild bird;
<b>Method of encounter:</b>	89 = taken by a wild fish;
01 = probably trapped;	95 = found in still water;
02 = probably trapped but the device is unknown to the banding office;	96 = captive bird (was from the wild);
03 = trapped in a mistnet;	98 = found dead in/near a nest (pulli or adult);
04 = trapped with a cage trap;	99 = found dead, cause unknown.
05 = trapped with a cannon net;	<b>Status of encounter:</b>
06 = trapped in clap trap, sprung trap, etc;	00 = status of bird and band unknown;
08 = trapped by hand or with handheld net;	01 = status of bird unknown, band left on bird;
09 = trapped using light device;	02 = status of bird unknown, band removed from bird;
13 = hand caught at roost or nest;	03 = bird is dead, status of band is unknown;
15 = deliberately trapped for the aviary;	04 = bird is dead, band left on bird;
18 = trapped because band tangled in fishing gear;	05 = bird is dead, band removed from bird;
20 = trapped because bird tangled in human object;	07 = was mercy killed and the band was left on;
21 = trapped because bird tangled in fishing gear;	08 = was mercy killed and the band was removed;
23 = trapped accidentally in marine/aquatic trap;	09 = rehabilitation attempted but bird died, status of band unknown;
25 = bird sick or injured;	10 = rehabilitation attempted but bird/bat died, band left on;
26 = exhausted;	11 = rehabilitation attempted but bird/bat died, band removed;
27 = injured by band;	13 = bird was released alive with the band;
30 = found near electricity wires;	14 = bird was released alive and the band was removed;
31 = collided with a moving road vehicle;	16 = was rehabilitated and released alive with the band;
33 = collided with moving aircraft;	18 = is alive in captivity and the status of the band is unknown;
35 = collided with a lighthouse or stationary night light;	19 = is alive in captivity with band;
38 = collided with a mast, tower, pole,, wire fence, aerial, sprinkler;	24 = transported to new site and released with band;
39 = found on road but not certainly hit by car;	26 = bird was alive in the wild with the band;
40 = band found on bird, no further data on how encountered;	29 = bird was partially decomposed and the band was removed;
41 = band returned, not reported if on bird;	32 = was skeleton/dried out corpse, band removed.
43 = band number only reported;	
46 = colour marking sighted in field, bird one of a cohort colour marked in this manner;	
47 = band number read in field (bird not trapped);	



## References

- Dettmann, E.B. 1993. Banding Round-up. Stilt 22, 57-61.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1994a. Banding Round-up. Stilt 24, 35-8.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1994b. Banding Round-up. Stilt 25, 47-9.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1995. Banding Round-up. Stilt 26, 61-4.  
 Pook, J. 1992. Banding Round-up Complete List. Stilt 20, 51-76.

**Table 2. Details of banded waders recovered more than 100 km from the banding place**  
**Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***

ND9-9806 34,MIRANDA FIRTH OF THAMES NEW ZEALAND 37d10m S 175d19mE 911028 +2 U NZ SCHEME  
 05 13 SH,ST HELENA ISLAND MORETON BAYQLD 27d23m S 153d13mE 930919 +4 U QWSG  
 Distance: 2336 km Direction: 291 degs. Time elapsed: 1 yrs 10 mnths 22 days

**Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris***

100-82051 11,RHYLL PHILLIP ISLANDVIC 38d21m S 145d19mE 800301 2 U VWSG  
 48 26 2F,3 MILE ROCKS BEACHPORT C.P.SA 37d29m S 140d1m E 930917 U U COOK  
 Distance: 475 km Direction: 280 degs. Time elapsed: 13 yrs 6 mnths 16 days

100-82506 X1,CRESCENT ISLAND OCEAN GRANGEVIC 37d58m S 147d45mE 811030 P U BURBIDGE  
 05 13 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d41m S 146d50mE 930508 +3 U VWSG  
 Distance: 113 km Direction: 225 degs. Time elapsed: 11 yrs 6 mnths 8 days

100-82507 X1,CRESCENT ISLAND OCEAN GRANGEVIC 37d58m S 147d45mE 811030 P U BURBIDGE  
 05 13 04,SWAN ISLAND QUEENSLANDVIC 38d15m S 144d40mE 930115 +3 U VWSG  
 Distance: 272 km Direction: 262 degs. Time elapsed: 11 yrs 2 mnths 16 days

100-85195 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d42m S 146d23mE 880702 +2 U VWSG  
 48 26 98,SMITH TONTAS 40d51m S 145d8m E 950625 U U PLOWRIGHT  
 Distance: 262 km Direction: 204 degs. Time elapsed: 6 yrs 11 mnths 23 days

100-96760 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS 38d5m S 144d31mE 890416 +2 U VWSG  
 48 26 2F,ON THE BEACH AT CARPENTERS ROCKSA 37d55m S 140d24mE 950205 U U & MS P PERT  
 Distance: 361 km Direction: 272 degs. Time elapsed: 5 yrs 9 mnths 20 days

100-96771 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS 38d5m S 144d31mE 890416 +2 U VWSG  
 48 26 3F,RIVOLI BAY SOUTHENDSA 37d34m S 140d8m E 930906 U U COOK  
 Distance: 389 km Direction: 277 degs. Time elapsed: 4 yrs 4 mnths 21 days

100-96839 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d42m S 146d23mE 890806 +3 U VWSG  
 48 26 1F,LAKES ENTRANCEVIC 37d52m S 148d0m E 940427 U U DOWLING  
 Distance: 169 km Direction: 57 degs. Time elapsed: 4 yrs 8 mnths 21 days

100-96841 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d42m S 146d23mE 890806 2 U VWSG  
 48 26 7F,WOOLLOOWARE BAY (BOTANY BAY)NSW 34d1m S 151d9m E 940108 U U STRAW  
 Distance: 673 km Direction: 41 degs. Time elapsed: 4 yrs 5 mnths 2 days

100-96888 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d42m S 146d23mE 900610 +3 U VWSG  
 48 26 7F,PELICAN POINT CARPENTERS ROCKSSA 37d54m S 140d22mE 950204 U U & MS P PERT  
 Distance: 532 km Direction: 278 degs. Time elapsed: 4 yrs 7 mnths 25 days

100-96915 11,RHYLL PHILLIP ISLANDVIC 38d21m S 145d19mE 900722 1 U VWSG  
 48 26 X6,SHIPWRECK POINT PERKINS ISLANDTAS 40d45m S 145d2m E 930704 U U LORD  
 Distance: 268 km Direction: 185 degs. Time elapsed: 2 yrs 11 mnths 12 days

100-96936 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS 38d5m S 144d31mE 910209 +2 U VWSG  
 48 26 23,KILLARNEY BEACHVIC 38d21m S 142d20mE 950927 U U GARRETT  
 Distance: 193 km Direction: 260 degs. Time elapsed: 4 yrs 7 mnths 18 days

100-99398 16,THE GURDIES WESTERNPORT BAYVIC 38d22m S 145d33mE 910929 2 U VWSG  
 05 13 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d41m S 146d50mE 930508 +3 U VWSG  
 Distance: 117 km Direction: 108 degs. Time elapsed: 1 yrs 7 mnths 9 days

100-99508 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLETVIC 38d41m S 146d50mE 920321 1 U VWSG  
 05 13 16,THE GURDIES WESTERNPORT BAYVIC 38d22m S 145d33mE 931017 +3 U VWSG  
 Distance: 117 km Direction: 287 degs. Time elapsed: 1 yrs 6 mnths 26 days

100-99577 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS 38d5m S 144d31mE 920503 1 U VWSG  
 48 26 23,KILLARNEY BEACHVIC 38d21m S 142d20mE 950927 U U GARRETT  
 Distance: 193 km Direction: 260 degs. Time elapsed: 3 yrs 4 mnths 24 days



**Article titled 'Leg-flagged Banded Stilts' on p.18 of WA Bird Notes, No.77, March 1996. Reports recent leg-flagging activity and requests sighting to be reported to GBP. Doesn't list any sightings to date. First paragraph reads 'In April-May [1995] metal bands were placed on 500 Banded Stilts and metal bands and yellow leg flags were placed on a further 500, all in the Lake Ballard area (see WABN 74, p.3 and Wingspan 5(2):13-15, June 1995'). The aim is to gather data on timing and direction of dispersal away from breeding areas, and subsequent movements'. Also: 'The bands and flags were placed above the 'knee' and are most visible when the birds are foraging'. Author not shown. Last sentence says please send records to Grant Pearson.**

**Note that a different article with the same heading, with authorship by JL, appeared in the Dec 1996 issue of WA Bird Notes (No.80). That article did list leg-flag sightings to date.**

might be WABN no 77 (March 1986)

## LEG FLAGGED BANDED STILTS

In April-May, metal bands were placed on 500 Banded Stilts and metal bands and yellow leg flags were placed on a further 500, all in the Lake Ballard area (see WABN 74, p. 3 and Wingspan 5(2): 13-15, June 1995). The aim is to gather data on timing and direction of dispersal away from breeding areas, and subsequent movements.

To date (early February '96), only two leg-flagged stilts have been sighted away from the breeding areas: one at a small salt lake near Kalgoorlie in September and one at Herschell Lake on Rottnest Island on 20/1/96.

RAOU members are requested to watch out for Banded Stilts wearing leg flags. The bands and flags were placed above the 'knee' and are most visible when the birds are foraging. For each observation, the following information is required:

- location
- date and time of observation
- name(s) and contact details of observer(s)
- total number of Banded Stilt seen at the location
- estimate of % of birds with chestnut chest bands
- number of Banded Stilts with yellow leg flags, and those with metal bands, seen at the location
- whether or not the flagged stilts have chestnut chest bands

Numbers, date and location are the most important information to note. Also, if you have examined Banded Stilts for flags and not found them, this is also valuable information.

Please send records to Grant Pearson, Wildlife Research Centre, Dept CALM, PO Box 51, Wanneroo 6065, or telephone (09) 405 5100, fax (09) 306 1641.

## CONSERVING AUSTRALIA'S THREATENED BIRDS

The RAOU, in conjunction with the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, has just established a threatened bird network to conserve Australia's 127 species and sub-species of threatened birds.

The network aims to link and strengthen the actions of species recovery teams around Australia, and in particular, to encourage community participation in urgent conservation tasks.

Over 2000 discrete tasks await adoption by the community, tasks developed by teams of scientists and community members expert in particular species requirements. Actions range from searching remote areas of Cape York for Golden-shouldered Parrots, to guarding nest sites of Little Terns on the beaches of south-eastern Australia.

Anyone wishing to help should contact Michael Fendley at RAOU Melbourne. Below are updates on two threatened species occurring in WA.

### Gouldian Finch

For the first time information is coming to light on the bird's Wet season movements, with observations near Katherine (NT) suggesting that birds move from the hills to the flats to seek out seeding, perennial grasses along creeks and around depressions.

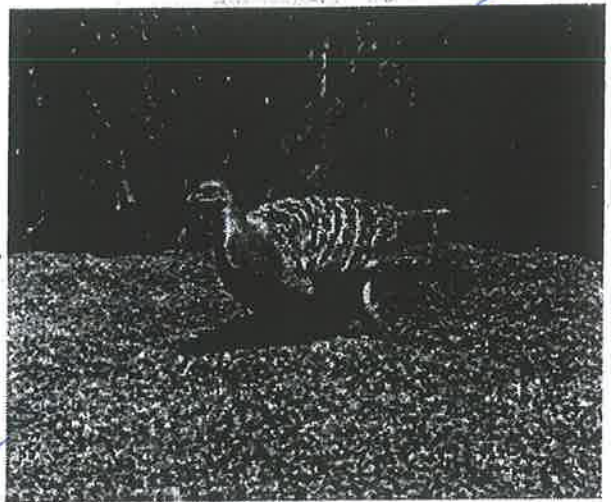
Population numbers appear to be down at Yinberrie in the Northern Territory, but further monitoring is required. Waterhole counts across the Top End are planned for late September-early October 1996, at which time volunteer

assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Glen Holmes is chasing up leads in Queensland with the objective of locating a good population for intensive study. Any sightings by Queensland birders would be very useful.

### Malleefowl

A most successful national conference was held in Adelaide in September 1995. Although Malleefowl range and numbers appear to be declining, there is hope that this can be arrested. Energetic recovery work is going on in several areas, with Western Australia lucky enough to have a Malleefowl shire and faunal emblem (Gnowangerup Shire - apparently 'Gnow' is Aboriginal for Malleefowl), and a dynamic Malleefowl Preservation Group numbering 250 financial members, with the natty T-shirt slogan of "It's Gnow or never".



Encouraging news has been received from South Australia where the number of active mounds in Bakara Conservation Park has increased from 9-16 over the last four years. Increased breeding density is attributable, at least in part, to a cooperative fox and rabbit control program implemented by local landholders, volunteers and Department of Environment and Natural Resources staff.

Joe Benshemesh is extending the Recovery Team's grid monitoring system in Victoria and would welcome help in setting up grids in the Little Desert area. Other volunteers will be needed shortly to carry out similar extension of the system throughout the bird's range.

Michael Fendley

### NEW MEMBERS

The following people joined the RAOU WA Group between 23 October 1995 and 24 January 1996. We look forward to meeting you at our excursions and general meetings.

E P Anderson, C and J Andrews, R Bernardo, J Bonomelli, M and A Buckman, C Chodorowski, P Comerford, A R Fergie, Mr and Mrs R S Ferguson, A Fincham, T and H Galluccio, J Gonat, M Gale, N Hogstrom, P Hyndes, D Blyth, D Jonas, T P Kemp, A and B King, M R Kollinger, J and R Luyer, H Macarthur, J D Massey, B, S and S Mee, S and J Miller, J Mills, S T Murray, U Neumann, K Peggs, J M Price, R D Moore, M Pudovskis, T Reynolds, A G Robertson, K Saunders,

**Fax (11/09/1995) from JL to Barry Baker at ANCA [ABBBS]. It reads 'My apologies for your letter of 13/8/95 to Grant Pearson re banding projects not having been replied to yet. We have a heavy field work load [e.g. SW wetland monitoring] at the moment and it will be approx 3 weeks before a reply can be prepared'.**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: BARRY BAKER URGENT: YES / NO

AT: ANCA

FROM: JIM LANE

Fax No.

06 2500314

DATE: 11/8/85

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

My apologies for your letter of 13/8/85 to  
Giant Person re banding projects not having  
been replied to yet. We have a heavy  
field work load at the moment and it will be  
approx 3 weeks before a reply  
can be prepared.

No. of pages inc. this page: (1)

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Regards (Jim Lane)

**Article on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995, titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job', authored by 'Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson' and re-printed from 'The Tattler' No.4, July 1995. Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**

community is indicated, eg, good representation of insectivorous species.

It would be appreciated if your responses, including a copy of the relevant survey information, could be directed to:

Mr Kevin McAlpine  
Conservation Branch  
Environmental Protection Authority  
141 St George's Tce, Perth WA 6000

There are also a number of specific areas for which the DEP is keen to receive information on the avifauna. Some of these areas are known to have high conservation value from a plant community perspective while others are areas for which additional information might help in the selection process. Some of the areas containing important plant communities are listed below for your information:

Talbot Road Reserve and bushland to the south  
Shireview Hill, Neerabup  
Landsdale Rec reserve  
Hartfield Park  
Brixton Reserve and adjacent bushland  
Waterloo Townsite  
Manea Park, Bunbury  
Capel Nature Reserve and adjacent bushland  
Yoongarillup reserve, Busselton  
Ambergate reserve, Busselton  
Carbunup Townsite  
Yallingup siding, Dunsborough  
Philips Road Nature Reserve and adjacent bushland,  
West Pinjarra  
Clifton Townsite

Bushland north and south of rifle range, South Yarloop

If there are any members interested in surveying one or more areas for the System 6 update programme, including those listed above, could they please contact Mr Kevin McAlpine of the DEP (Tel 09 222 7055, fax 321 5184).

Any assistance you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

System 6 Study Team

#### FOR SALE

Zeiss Binoculars 8 x 20B with leather case as new \$330.00  
ono : Ring Nancy Stewart - Tel (09) 383 3492

#### NW 1996 EXPEDITION

The north west of Australia is one of the top regions in the world for waders with up to three quarters of a million individuals of 50 species spread between three main locations:

- Roebuck Bay/Roebuck Plains (near Broome)
- 80 Mile Beach/Anna Plains (250 kms SW of Broome)
- Port Hedland Saltworks (600 kms SW of Broome)

The 1996 expedition will be the sixteenth to NW Australia and will last for **seven weeks - from 2 March to 20 April**. Participants are encouraged to come for as long as possible (preferably a minimum of 2-3 weeks). They are also welcome to stay at Broome Bird Observatory outside the 'core' expedition dates - counting of migration departures will, for example, be continuing until the end of April.

The main objectives of the expedition will include banding - mainly by cannon-netting, but with some mist-netting - and associated leg-flagging (yellow flags) and moult/weight/other biometric data measurement. During the 1994 expedition 6,000 waders of 36 species were caught (as well as eight species of terns and several hundred passerines).

Would prospective participants please indicate their preferred dates as soon as possible so manpower can be scheduled to give as even a cover as possible? It is necessary to do this for logistic reasons - particularly with transport limitations in mind.

For full details of the expedition including itinerary, climate, costs, travel, etc, contact Clive Minton, 165 Dalgety Road, Beaumaris, Victoria 3193, Australia. Phone/Fax (61) 3-9589-4901.

### Snippets

A Sooty Tern, banded by New Zealand meteorological staff on Raoul Island 35 years ago, has been found 14,000 kilometres away on the Seychelles group of islands in the Indian Ocean. The bird was still breeding! Banding studies are almost the only way such fundamental life history information can be gathered about many species.

#### AWSG WADER CONFERENCE - AN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR

Plans are well underway for the first International Wader Conference to be held in Australia, on 16/17 March 1996. This event will be one of the most significant wader conferences to be held and will be a truly international affair.

Although the full program for the Conference will not appear until the October issue of "The Tattler" it can be safely said that the Brisbane Wader Conference will be the most significant milestone event in wader conservation to be held in this part of the world, and will have major implications on the future activities of the AWSG. The Wader Conference will also provide a unique opportunity for Australian ornithologists to meet and talk to wader specialists from other parts of the globe. At least one evening is planned during the Ramsar Conference for Wader Conference participants to meet with Ramsar delegates to discuss important wader sites within the Flyway. This information will be essential to delegates when addressing the importance of Ramsar sites.

Activities during the Conference will include a Conference Dinner to be held on the Saturday evening. Excursions are being organised by the QWSG to allow participants of the Wader Conference and Ramsar to visit important wader sites in and around the Moreton Bay Ramsar site. It is hoped that a number of participants from both conferences will attend the NW '96 Expedition to take part in the cannon-netting and wader monitoring program carried out by the AWSG.

Conference fees will be A\$65 and will include morning and afternoon teas and lunches for both days, Conference package, program abstracts and post seminar proceedings. Proceedings will be available to non-participants for A\$40 (A\$25 to AWSG members).

Billeting: the QWSG will play host to a number of members of AWSG by providing accommodation at members' homes. This will substantially reduce costs for interstate and overseas visitors. Anyone looking for a bed during the Conference should notify Peter Driscoll, Fahey Rd, Mt Glorious, Qld 4520, early to avoid missing out.

#### BANDED STILTS COMPLETE THE JOB

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land



Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow-up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food – thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in numbers as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5,000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2,000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour-flagging chicks, with nearly 1,000 birds being marked altogether. It was reasonably straightforward to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood. This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid-July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone in Western Australia, please keep a lookout for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson  
from *The Tattler* 4 July 1995

## Excursion and Observatory Reports

### BROOME BIRD OBSERVATORY

The dry season of 1995 at BBO has been the busiest on record. There has been an increased demand for nature-based experiences such as birdwatching and the peaceful

surroundings of Roebuck Bay provide the perfect setting. Our exciting news is that an Ecotourism Grant application for a 24 hour power system (just 4 hours at present) was successful. RAOU Headquarters applied for the grant from the Department of Tourism on BBO's behalf and we were told the amazing news in May. Over two years work have gone into the development of a suitable remote area power supply by Western Power, who will use the system to promote renewable energy. The Observatory and Western Power will also contribute to the capital cost.

The system, as specified by the Murdoch University Energy Research Institute, will be capable of supplying air conditioning during the hot tropical summer months and enough power for peak use during the busy dry season. The good news is that the gas fridges will be replaced with electric and there will be power for fans, lighting and office equipment. The system will comprise an array of solar panels tracking the sun, batteries, inverter and backup generator. Installation is expected to be completed by end of January. The benefits will be enormous and hopefully the enjoyment of all visitors to BBO will be enhanced.

The new power system will be well tested in March and April 1996 when the Australasian Wader Studies Group descend on BBO for a seven-week expedition. The reputation of past expeditions has created a demand for places, resulting in a strong team representing 11 countries. To make the best use of these wader experts, our first course *Wave the Waders Goodbye* will overlap a few days when the expedition is at the Observatory. Danny Rogers, course leader, will fill in the story of our waders as they leave Broome, as he was lucky to visit the northern coast of Russia last year. Please book early (discount for RAOU members).

Broome and Russia continue to play international ping pong with the third sighting of an individual Red and White colour banded Great Knot from Russia:

1. 22/06/94 Banded NE Siberia (adult female)
2. 09/09/94 Seen Roebuck Bay, Broome (three occasions)
3. 27/06/95 Seen NE Siberia (same breeding grounds)
4. 17/10/95 Seen Roebuck Bay, Broome.

The last sighting was on the beach directly in front of the Observatory. Becky, keen to have a witness, ran to find Jon. Fortunately Jon had a good look just before an Australian Hobby sent the flock into a panic. It seems a remarkable set of sightings, as more than 22,000 Great Knot occur in Roebuck Bay and such huge distances have been travelled. Considering the odds, this Great Knot might as well have landed in BBO car park and stretched out her leg for examination!

Another record was established in August when a Great Knot was caught on exactly the same beach as it was banded way back in 1981. Aged as a juvenile, it is now 15 years old making it the oldest Great Knot on record and certainly the oldest retrap for NW Australia.

After welcoming back the waders in August and September this year we farewelled our four workers who had worked for so long and so hard. Tim and Kerry Thornton were Assistant Wardens for over four months and Emile and Francine Delhaize were volunteers for six weeks. They all contributed so much to BBO's success and helped us look after some 4,500 visitors to the Observatory. It is only with such dedicated volunteers that BBO can continue to be the special place it is.

Many of the waterholes surrounding Broome continued

**Article titled 'Update on Banded Stilt Breeding event' by Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson, p.9 in Sept 1995 issue of Wingspan, that inter alia reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**



# Update on Banded Stilt breeding event

**T**he June edition of Wingspan (Vol. 5 (2): 13-15) featured an article by Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson, describing the beginning of this historic Banded Stilt breeding event at Lake Ballard, WA. Banded Stilts only breed on recently-flooded salt lakes, and only about 20 nesting events have ever been recorded. In the June feature, we left the breeding colony just as the chicks were hatching. Here is an update on how they have fared since...

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow-up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.



*Above: Banded Stilt chick taking a first drink at the water's edge.*

*Left: Each brood is accompanied only by a single parent as it leaves the colony for the water.*

*Below left: A newly-hatched chick, still wet, is visible under this incubating adult.*

PHOTOS BY CLIVE MINTON



It seems that breeding has been successful, with an excellent rate of young birds surviving to fledging. Mark Lambie, the ABC camera-man, reported 'tens of thousands' of well-grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard.

Although the newly-hatched chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre-deep water, they seemed to prefer to make their way gradually down to the shallow parts of the lake (30 km away) for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or

in very shallow water picking up minute items of food — too small to be the brine shrimp that are thought to be their preferred diet.

In contrast, the accompanying adults — which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred-strong groups — seemed to find feeding in the shallows unsatisfactory. Thus they periodically left the chicks to fly to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1,000 birds marked. To do this, we caught chicks in a handnet from a moving boat — a method which proved reasonably straightforward. When the chicks were still in family parties we found it necessary to catch only part of the brood at a time, then to return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. We also followed this precautionary procedure with larger groups of chicks. Incidentally, the behaviour we observed while catching the chicks provides yet another con-

trast between Banded Stilts and other waders: Banded Stilts neither actively defend their young nor perform distraction displays (such as the 'broken-wing trick') to deter intruders, as do other waders.

So far there has apparently been no second round of breeding at Lake Ballard, unlike the breeding event at Lake Torrens in 1989. However, plenty of adults are still present on the Lake, and some excited gathering and even copulating has been observed, so further nesting may occur.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid-July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made, and to log the number of adults and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

A small nesting colony (5,000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion, and at least 2,000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower there than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of predators in the form of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon.

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded and leg-flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

**CLIVE MINTON, JIM LANE AND GRANT PEARSON**





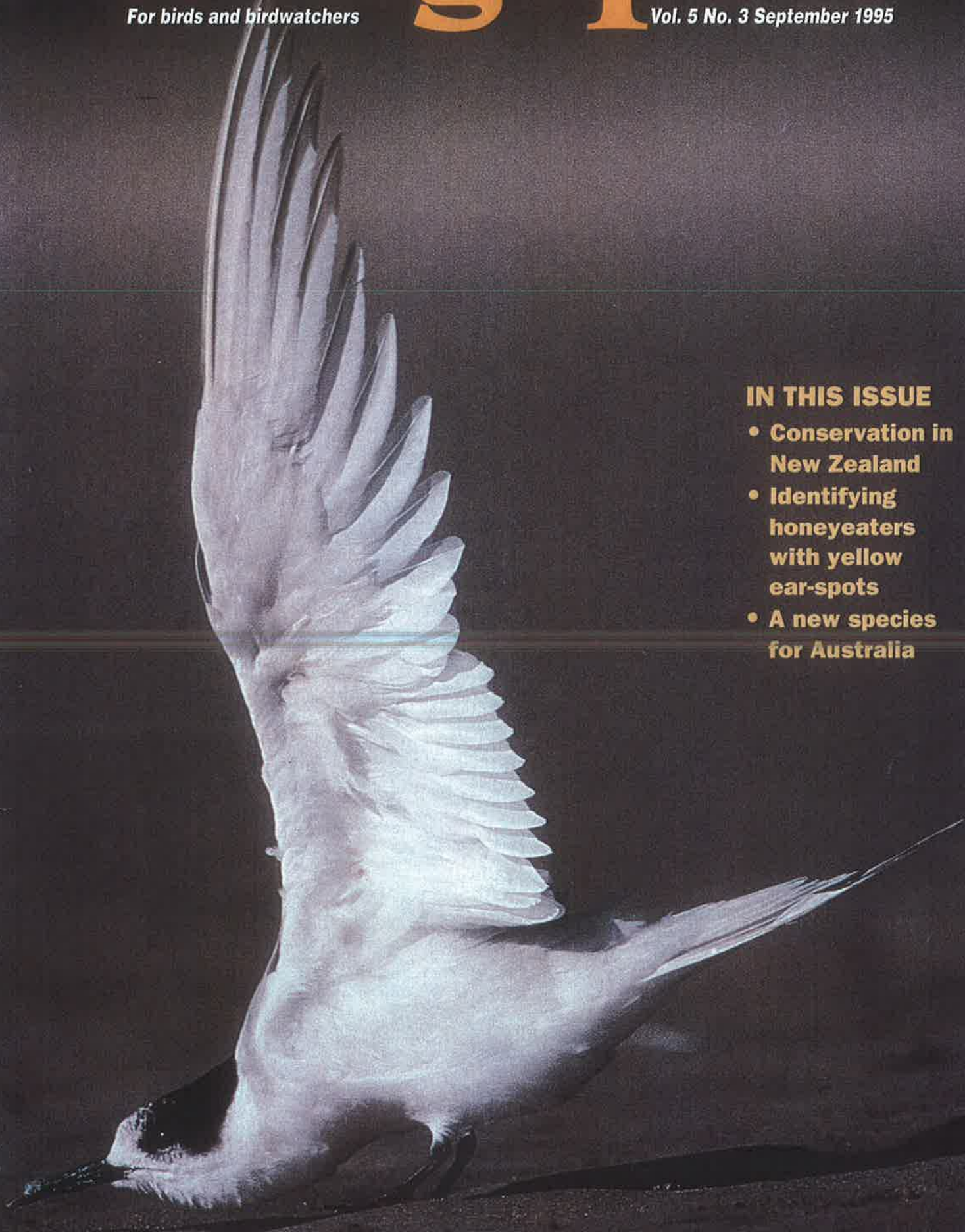
# Wingspan

For birds and birdwatchers

Vol. 5 No. 3 September 1995

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Conservation in New Zealand
- Identifying honeyeaters with yellow ear-spots
- A new species for Australia



**Fax (23/08/1995) from JL to GBP with memorandum headed 'Banded Stilt Monitoring' that reads '[the recent] air survey by Andy Chapman showed that Lake Marmion will be dry in a week or so and Ballard in the next month or two. The stilt are therefore starting to move ...'.**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: GRANT PEARSON URGENT: YES/NO

AT: WRC

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 23/8/95

Your Ref: \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of pages inc. this page: 3.....

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Watkins 1993 *A National Plan for Shorebird Conservation in Australia*. The number in brackets is the highest known count, as given in Watkins 1993. Mike Bamford will be able to give you advice on who might be approached about which sites. I have asterisked the sites I think you are most likely to find people for.

- Lake McLeod (53 100)
- \* Lake King (30 000)
- \* Lake Gore (20 000)
- Shark Bay (14 500)
- Lake Grace North (12 000)
- \* Walyormouring lake (10 700)
- \* Lake Warden (10 000)
- \* Peel Inlet (9 000)
- Lake Hinds (8 000)
- Lake Kwoornicup (7 000)
- Lake Dumbleyung (6 000)
- Lake Mears (5 200)
- \* Culham Inlet (5 000)
- Gidon wetlands (Esperance)
- Lake Quarbino (Wagin) (4 500)
- Nambling (nearby lake) (3 000)
- Lake Ninan (3 000)

too remote?  
rarely has water/stilts?  
ask Hoop? researcher?  
too remote?  
too remote?  
Esperance resident?  
we are doing (Creery?)

*CALM CSIRO Audubon on a Mission Program*

*Monk Trilaw*

ask Andy Chapman?

*2 sites minimum basulo*

23/9/95

TO: GRANT PEARSON

or was it Tue 22/8? 10/1/14

### BANDED STILT MONITORING

Monday's air survey by Andy Chapman showed that Lake Marmion will be dry in a week or so and Ballard in the next month or two. The stilt are therefore starting to move and will very soon be headed for more watered parts near and on the coast.

What we need are a few observers (one each) at a few key localities where Banded Stilt are known to congregate as inland waters dry out, to record the following on a regular basis. Weekly or fortnightly would be great. monthly would also be very worthwhile.

The information required from each visit is:

- \* Location
- \* date and time
- \* observer
- \* total number of Banded Stilt
- \* % with chestnut chest band
- \* number with yellow leg flags or metal leg bands or both
- \* whether or not each of the banded/flagged birds has a chest band.

The few localities could be chosen from the following list (from Watkins 1993 *A National Plan for Shorebird Conservation in Australia*). The number in brackets is the highest known count, as given in Watkins 1993. Mike Bamford will be able to give you advice on who might be approached about which sites. I have asterisked the sites I think you are most likely to find people for.

- Lake McLeod (53 100)
- \* E Lake King (30 000)
- \* E Lake Gore (20 000)
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- Nambling (nearby lake) (3 000)
- Lake Ninan (3 000)

- too remote?
- rarely has water/stilts?
- ask Hoop researcher?
- too remote?
- too remote?
- Esperance resident?
- we are doing (Greery)

CALM CSIRO Indobur or a similar Program

Monk Trilow

ask Andy Chapman?

2 sites minimum basile

Oldfield Estuary (3 000)  
White Water L (Yealering) (2 900)  
Balicup Lake (2 800)  
Wilsons Inlet (2 500)

ask Denmark resident?

Other sites with useful numbers of Banded Stilt but not listed by Watkins are:

- \* F. Hedland or Dampier saltworks ask Mike Bamford which & who might do
- \* Rottnest Island ask Denis Saunders or Perry de Rebeira who might do
- \* Vasse Wonnerup I could take care of

You might find CALM staff, e.g. Malcolm Graham and Leon Silvester in the Wheatbelt region (where there are numerous prospective sites), who could participate or give you names.

It also occurs to me that we can count/check the BaSt at each of the lakes we monitor in Sep and Nov this year.

Would you please set this up as a matter of urgency. The first step should be to contact Mike Bamford for ideas on who might cover which localities and to make sure that as far as possible whatever we set up is not in conflict with the regular wader counts he is setting up. I will let Mike know you will be contacting him and will also send him a copy of this fax for info.

All observations should be sent to you rather than me.

Any queries please ring me.

Jim Lane  
23/8/95

P.S. Please ~~not~~ ring me when you have read this.



**JL's copy of GBP's fax (18/08/1995) to JL. JL has annotated the 13/08/1995 letter from Barry Baker, including with 'Grant. Which projects?'**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



53

Date:

18/8

To:

Tim Lane

At:

B.S.N.

From:

Grant

No of Pages:  
(including face sheet)

2.

Message:

Just some brief comments on objectives  
discussion & conclusion of project pt.  
Chers.



AUSTRALIAN BIRD AND BAT BANDING SCHEMES  
GPO Box 8  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2500321 Facsimile (06) 2500314

Authority no : 831

MR GE PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WARREROO WA 6065

Dear Grant

1994/95 PROJECT REPORTS

I refer to my letter of 12 May 1995 in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 and to provide reports on your projects. So far, we have not received a response from you on this matter, nor have we received a report on your project/s.

As projects will not be considered for approval in 1994/95 until a progress report has been received I would urge you to address these matters as soon as possible if you want to continue. Projects for which no report has been received by 31 August 1995 will lose their approved status and State and Territory wildlife authorities will be advised accordingly.

Details of previously approved projects are again attached. Please check the details and indicate whether you wish to continue by circling YES or NO as appropriate. Reports should address the following points:

1. Project Title
2. Objectives
  - what were the initial objectives of the project?
  - what has been achieved to date?
3. Methods
  - techniques used, including capture methods, colour marking and data analysis,
  - frequency of sampling during the assessment period,
  - A, C and R class banders who have assisted in the project,
  - number of species, and number of individuals banded and retrapped during the assessment period.
4. Discussion
  - brief discussion of results achieved to date,
  - proposed refinements to methodology, if any, to achieve the objectives of the study.
5. Publications
  - details of any publications resulting from the project. (ABBBS would appreciate a copy please.)

If you do not wish to continue with your project/s, please:

- provide a final report for each project, in the form indicated above;
- return any bands and equipment you have to the Banding Office;
- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards

Barry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995



Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

An agency of  
the Federal  
Environment  
Portfolio

**GBP's copy of his fax (18/08/1995) to JL. Cover page reads 'Just some brief comments [needed] on objectives, discussion & continuance of project pls'. Second page is copy of Barry Baker's letter of 13/08/1995 to GBP.**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



**Date:**

18/8

**To:**

Jim Lane

**At:**

BST

**From:**

Grant

**No of Pages:**

(including face sheet)

2

**Message:**

Just some brief comments on objectives  
discussion & continuance of Project M.  
Ches.

AUSTRALIAN BIRD AND BAT BANDING SCHEMES  
GPO Box 8  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2500321 Facsimile (06) 2500314

Authority no : 831

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

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- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards



Barry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995

Australian  
Nature  
Conservation  
Agency

Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

**Fax (18/08/1995) from GBP to Melinda Maher at ABBBS saying 'Many thanks for the bands. We may have to return the last 280 if there is no further activity'. Next two pages of fax are copies of two 'Receipt of Bands' forms.**

**One (signed on 18/08/1995 by GBP) was for receipt of 280 'Size 08', 'Metal SS' leg-bands with 'Prefix 082' and 'Serial Numbers 95721 to 96000', issued on 07/06/1995. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of bands received. [JL 04/02/1995: None of these bands was used in 1995. It would seem that they were not received in time for the last banding & flagging effort of 1995, which was at Lake Marmion on 11-12/06/1995.**

**The other was a copy of the form (signed on 01/06/1995 by GBP) for receipt of 200 'Size 08', 'Metal SS' leg-bands with 'Prefix 082' and 'Serial Numbers 95501 to 95700', issued on 17/05/1995. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of bands received. [All of these bands were used on 11/06/1995 at Lake Marmion].**

**GBP's original (pink) copy of the form he signed on 18/08/1995 is also here.**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



Date:

18/8/95

To:

Melinda Mahon

As:

ABBS

From:

Graet Pearson

No of Pages:

(including face sheet)

3

Message:

Many thanks for the bands. We may have  
to return the last 280 if there is no further  
activity.

Cheers

Graet-P

Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:

=====

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Authority no : 831      Date bands issued : 07/06/95

Please find enclosed the band supplies you recently requested. You should check these bands against the computer listing given below to ensure that no errors have been made by the Banding Office Staff. Note any errors on the sheet and return it to the Banding Office as soon as possible. Even if the bands supplied and the listing correspond, this should be signed and returned to acknowledge the receipt of the bands. The number of bands supplied may be adjusted subject to the availability and normal string length of the size required.

SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
08	SS	280	08	95721 to 96000	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:

=====

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Authority no : 831

Date bands issued : 17/05/95

Please find enclosed the band supplies you recently requested. You should check these bands against the computer listing given below to ensure that no errors have been made by the Banding Office Staff. Note any errors on the sheet and return it to the Banding Office as soon as possible. Even if the bands supplied and the listing correspond, this should be signed and returned to acknowledge the receipt of the bands. The number of bands supplied may be adjusted subject to the availability and normal string length of the size required.

SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
		1	SML	PLIER	
08	SS	200	082	95501 to 95700	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.



Signature

1/6/95

Date



Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:  
=====

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Authority no : 831      Date bands issued : 07/06/95

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SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
08	SS	280	082	95721 to 96000	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.



Signature

18/8/95

Date

**Letter (17/08/1995) from GBP replying to Barry Baker's (ABBBS) letter of 13/08/1995 (below). Inter alia reads: 'My guess is the project has probably been completed. However it is not known whether there is still activity at the Lake Ballard or the Lake Marmion colony and an aerial survey [by ACh] on 21 August will confirm this. [When we have his report] I will complete the relevant details for you and forward then to your office'.**

# Department of Conservation and Land Management



W.A. Wildlife Research Centre  
Ocean Reef Road, Woodvale  
PO Box 51 Wanneroo,  
Western Australia, 6065

Your ref: 13/8/95  
Our ref: absgp895

Telephone +61(09) 405 5163, fax (09) 306 1641

Mr Barry Baker  
Executive Officer  
ABBS

Re: 1994/95 Progress Report

Dear Barry

My apologies for the delay in responding to your first request. My guess is the project has probably been completed. However it is not known whether there is still activity at the Lake Ballard or the Lake Marmion colony and an aerial survey by the Kalgoorlie regional ecologist Andy Chapman on 21 August will confirm this. As soon as we have his report I will complete the relevant details for you and forward them to your office

Best wishes,

Grant Pearson  
17 August 1995

**Letter (13/08/1995) from Barry Baker (Executive Officer of ABBBS) to GBP referring to a letter of 12/05/1995 ‘... in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 [or did he mean 1995/96?] and to provide reports on your projects’**

**BB was still awaiting a response and report/s. ‘Details of previously approved projects are again attached’.**

AUSTRALIAN BIRD AND BAT BANDING SCHEMES  
GPO Box 8  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2500321 Facsimile (06) 2500314

Authority no : 831

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Dear Grant

1994/95 PROJECT REPORTS

I refer to my letter of 12 May 1995 in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 and to provide reports on your projects. So far, we have not received a response from you on this matter, nor have we received a report on your project/s.

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  - brief discussion of results achieved to date,
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- provide a final report for each project, in the form indicated above;
- return any bands and equipment you have to the Banding Office;
- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards



Harry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995



Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

\* PROJECT: 1 Study of Banded Stilt breeding biology

CONTINUE? YES/NO

FAMILY OR GROUP: RECURVIROSTRIDAE

SPECIES: Banded Stilt ,

REGION: WESTERN AUSTRALIA ,

LOCALITY: L BALLARD

LOCODES: 0831B1 ,

START DATE: 22/03/95

END DATE: 30/06/95

GOALS: ECOLOGY ,

HABITAT: INLAND WATERS ,

COLLABORATORS:



Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

---

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SPECIES: Banded Stilt ,

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COLLABORATORS:



Canberra Office

GPO Box 636

Canberra ACT 2601

Ph (06) 250 0200

Fax (06) 250 0399

**Article titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' (p.3 in 'The Tattler No.4, July 1995) authored by 'Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson'. Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described. Note that this article was re-printed on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995.**

---



16/8/95

JIM LANE

PVI

3

The Tattler

No.4 July 1995

The tour involved presentations by Drs Driscoll and Zikov illustrating the important link between Russia and Australia with Japan. Evening talks at visits to each site were attended by local wetlands groups and representatives of the media. Information was exchanged about Russian, Australian and local research and conservation efforts. An overview of shorebird and Littler Tern banding was presented by Shigets Yoshimitsu of the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology at the Tokyo meeting.

It is hoped that the tour will result in a greater awareness by the Japanese people of the international importance of local wetlands and the need for international cooperation for the conservation of shorebirds and their habitat. The link between Australia and Japan was demonstrated by the presence of colour-flagged Bar-tailed Godwits from Queensland and New Zealand during the tour and observations of colour-flagged waders by members of all groups who attended the visits at the various sites.

Japan has lost great expanses of tidal flats during the last few decades due to development.

## Banded Stilts complete the job

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western

Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow up visit in late May to film chick crecking and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with and excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lambie, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food - thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in numbers as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour-flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was reasonably straightforward to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood. This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone in Western Australia, please keep a lookout for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jan Lane & Grant Pearson

## オオシ シキ by any other name- Sniping in Hokkaido

As an adjunct to an ecological study on migratory shorebirds in the Hunter estuary, conducted by Shortland

Wetlands Centre for the Kooragang Wetlands Rehabilitation Project, I was recently fortunate enough to spend a month, from mid-May to mid-June, in Hokkaido, Japan studying Latham's Snipe. My family and I were accompanied during the first week of the trip by Mike Weston of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union and the AWSG. Mike, incidentally, is quite an impressive sight in a suit. It is hoped that the RAOU and the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, in conjunction with the Wildbird Society of Japan and the Japanese

**Faxes (18/07/1995) from JL to Phil Straw (RAOU Sydney) and Kate Gorringer-Smith (RAOU Melbourne) with finalised typescript headed 'Follow-up note for 'Wingspan' and 'Tattler' as written by [CDTM], with a few amendments by JL (18/7/1995)' and two suggested titles: 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' or 'Banded Stilts Did It!!' Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**

**This article was published in the Sept 1995 issue of Wingspan (see above) under the title 'Update on Banded Stilt Breeding event' and on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995, titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' (re-printed from 'The Tattler' No.4, July 1995).**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT

FAX NO: (097) 521 432

FAXED

TO: PHIL STAN

URGENT: YES/NO

AT: RPOH SYDNEY

Fax No.

02

252 1460

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 18/7/95

Your Ref:

Local Ref:

Typed version with amendments (deletions  
struck through, additions in bold) as  
discussed. Cheers

No. of pages inc. this page: 2

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

excised gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was ~~quite easy~~ **reasonably straightforward** to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood at a time and to return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. ~~Once chicks had formed into larger groups this precautionary procedure was not necessary. This precautionary procedure was~~ **also followed with larger groups of chicks.** It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and ~~fledged~~ juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT

FAX NO: (097) 521 432

4-1-

TO: KATE **FAXED** CONFERENCE - SMITH URGENT: YES / NO

AT: RAON MFLB

Fax No. 03 332 9194

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 18/7/85

Your Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

*A typed version of the handwritten note Clive sent you - with a few amendments (deletions struck through, additions in bold). Cheers.*

No. of pages inc. this page: 2

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

~~Extensive~~ ~~gannets~~ and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

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A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and ~~fledged~~ juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging. *✓*

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson

FOLLOW-UP NOTE FOR WINGSPAN AND TATTLER,  
AS WRITTEN BY C.M., WITH A FEW AMENDMENTS BY J.L. (18/7/95)

**"BANDED STILTS COMPLETE THE JOB"**  
**OR**  
**"BANDED STILTS DID IT!!"**

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food - thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was ~~quite easy~~ **reasonably straightforward** to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood at a time and to return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. ~~Once chicks had formed into larger groups this precautionary procedure was not necessary. This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks.~~ It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and ~~fledged~~ juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging. ↗

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson

**Fax (14/07/1995) from CDTM to JL with handwritten draft of article with suggested alternative titles 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' or 'Banded Stilts Did It!!' See JL's fax above (18/07/1995) to P Straw and K Gorringe for typed version and relevance to this RMCR.**

Phil Straw | Ewin at Tattler  
Fax/phone 02 597 7765 291  
for  
Sharon 02 252 1409  
Brenda Murliss  
34 Centre Rd Vermont Vic 3133

out when  
out when  
next week

discharge

Tattler

02 252 1460 Fax

Fax to Tim Lense CALM Busselton  
From Clive Minton 0971-521-432  
03-9589-4901

14/7/95

I attach the text of a follow up note for Wingspan.  
Could you please arrange the necessary approval?  
If you have any comments please contact Kate-Joanne  
Smith, the editor, at RAOU HQ.

It is not as good as I would have liked - time pressure  
I've sent her 12 more slides + captions & this should make  
it more interesting.

I've sent an identical text to "The Tattler" - the  
AWSG newsletter. In preparing this I looked at what  
I sent them in April & am pleased to see I made  
due mention of CALM (& got UWSG attributed only to  
Mary Benn!).

I return from Fleur, 27 July, Meanwhile all  
the best Clive



(1)

Banded Stilts complete the job  
or Banded Stilts Did It !!

Research work by Tim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia, continued into the Banded Stilt <sup>breeding</sup> locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow up visit in Lake King to film chick <sup>chicks</sup> <sup>creching</sup> and fledging. <sup>14th May</sup>

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Hamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after <sup>hatching</sup> they preferred to gradually make their way down to the <sup>shallow</sup> parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. Here they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food - thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually <sup>coalesced</sup> into hundred-strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They <sup>visit</sup> periodically left the chicks and <sup>from</sup> to deeper water presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present



(2)

on the lake however and some excited gatherings and <sup>even</sup> <sup>copulation</sup> <sup>reproduction</sup> have been observed and on a further <sup>nesting</sup> <sup>event</sup> <sup>may occur</sup> <sup>Mac far</sup> small nesting colony <sup>(near 1000, 500 pairs)</sup> did form on nearby Lake Munnian and at least 8000 chicks were <sup>seen</sup> <sup>seen</sup> in June, but nesting success was probably lower than on Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in Banding and colony flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was quite easy to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood at a time and to return <sup>these</sup> birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. Once chicks had formed into larger groups this precautionary procedure was not necessary. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays (such as the "broken-wing trick") like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and fledged juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would anyone, especially in Western Australia, please trap a <sup>cock</sup> cock for Banded / flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Mason

**Faxes (both 13/07/1995) between JL and CDTM discussing possibility of 'presenting a paper on the Banded Stilt work' to SHOC in Albany, WA, on 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Oct 1996. The presentation would include information about BaSt leg-banding and leg-flagging activities at Lakes Ballard and Marmion by the authors in 1995 and subsequent band/flag sightings.**



FAXED

41

FAX to Tim Lane CALM 09-306-1641  
From Clive Minton 03-4589-4901

13/7/95

What a good idea!

Yes, I am attending SHOC. In fact I'm responsible for putting together the wader programme. I don't know why I didn't think of putting Banded Stilts into the programme, but I do think it would make an excellent joint presentation.

I have a problem. I have invited 8 speakers already for the 3hr. session I am allocated, these cover speakers from South America, Africa & N.Z. & Australia + 2 others (Canada & Holland) covering very wide interest / relevance subjects. I expect to get 6 'yes' which, at 1/2 hr. each, fills the wader programme.

I am already contemplating going back to Brian Collins & asking for a whole day allocation for waders. An alternative would be for us to present Banded Stilts under sub-theme 1. I will await responses to my invitations before deciding which courses to follow. In any event we should, and will, make a presentation.

I will be in touch again around mid-August on this subject. Best wishes, Clive

PS I am away for 12 days from Saturday (15-22/8), I'm taking my 90 yr. mother & 3 1/2 yr. grandson on holiday to N.T.

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



12.

Date:

13/7/95

To:

CLEVE M.

At:

MEUB

From:

JIM L.

No of Pages:

(including face sheet)

3

Message:

Attached is my registration of interest  
in attending the SITO Congress in Albany W.A.  
in October next year.

① Will you be attending?

② What do you think about us presenting  
a paper on the Banded Skink work?

If you are attending we could co-deliver  
it. If not, I would be happy  
to deliver it on behalf of both (all?)  
of us.

③ Your thoughts in due course?

## Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress Albany, Western Australia

If you hope to attend the Congress, please complete this form and return it to the address given below. Registration fees and titles of intended talks are not required at this time.

Title: MR Family name: LANE  
 Given names: JAMES ALAN K.  
 Postal address: DEPT. CONSERVATION & LAND MGMT  
14 QUEEN STREET, BUSSELTON  
 Country: W.A. 6280  
 Telephone: 097 521 677 Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I intend to register as a:

- ☒ Full Member  
☐ Accompanying Person  
☐ Student Member  
☐ Day Member

I would like to present a:

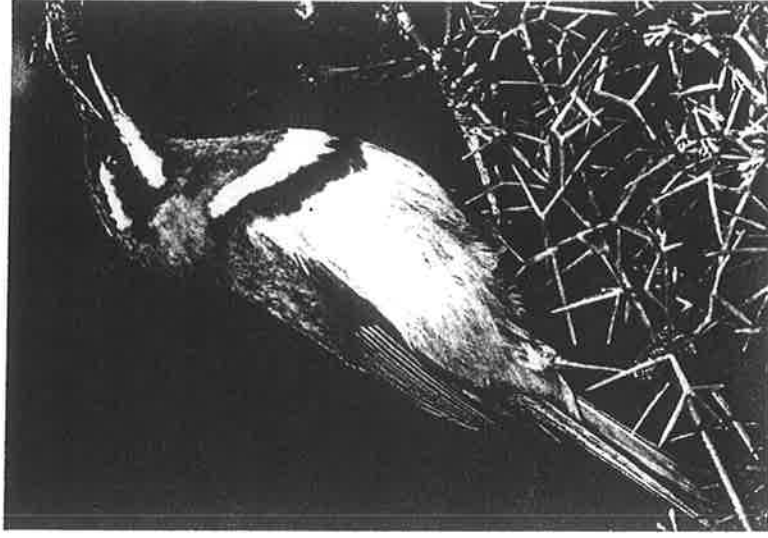
- ☒ Spoken paper  
☐ Poster paper

My paper would be related to:

- ☒ Sub-theme 1 ☐ Sub-theme 2  
☒ Sub-theme 3 ☐ Sub-theme 4  
☐ Sub-theme 5 ☐ Sub-theme 6  
☐ Sub-theme 7

Please return to : Professor Brian Collins, School of Environmental Biology, Curtin University of Technology, GPO Box U1987, Perth, Western Australia, 6001; Tel: 619 351 7041, Fax: 619 351 2495; Email: B.Collins@info.curtin.edu.au.

**ALBANY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
OCTOBER 5 - 9, 1996**



Western Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus superciliosus* (Wells/CALM)

## Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress

The ecology, conservation and management of southern hemisphere birds.



Hosted by the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union



### The Albany Experience

Located on the rugged south coast of Western Australia, Albany offers panoramic views of the magnificent Princess Royal Harbour and surrounding countryside. First settled in 1826, the town offers visitors much that is of historical and cultural interest. The Albany hinterland is renowned for its unique fauna and flora, and intersperses farming communities with vineyards and an extensive system of National Parks and Nature Reserves.



Panoramic view of Albany and Princess Royal Harbour  
Photo courtesy of Rolsh Productions



## Location

The Congress will be based at the Esplanade Hotel and Extravaganza Gallery in Albany, a major regional centre on the south coast of Western Australia.

## Time

Saturday, 5th - Tuesday, 9th October 1996

## Theme

A major focus will be placed upon the ecology, conservation and management of southern hemisphere birds.

## Sub-themes

- (1) Conservation and management of birds
- (2) Impact of fire and habitat fragmentation on bird communities.
- (3) Studies of seabirds and waders.
- (4) Breeding biology and mating systems of birds.
- (5) Abundance and distribution of birds.
- (6) Plant-animal interactions.
- (7) Contributed papers in areas other than those indicated above will be considered.

## Congress format

Provision has been made for the presentation of plenary lectures and spoken or poster papers on three days of the Congress. Mid-congress tours to places of scenic and scientific interest have been planned for 8th October, and form part of the official program.

## Language

English will be the official language for the Congress. No translation facilities will be available.

## Proceedings

Full members will receive copies of edited papers presented by plenary and other speakers. These will be distributed after the Congress.

## Provisional registration

Delegates will be required to register in one of the following categories:

- (1) *Full Members*, who will receive a copy of the Congress Proceedings, be provided with lunch, and morning/afternoon tea each day, and may attend all official activities other than the Congress Dinner without further charge (expected cost AUD\$290 per person);
- (2) *Accompanying Persons*, who will be entitled to participate in a program of alternative activities and attend all social events other than the Congress Dinner without further charge (expected cost AUD \$200 per person);
- (3) *Student Members*, who will have the same entitlements as Full Members, except that no copy of the Congress Proceedings will be issued (expected cost AUD \$200 per person); or
- (4) *Day Members*, who may attend only for nominated days of the program (expected cost AUD \$80 per day).

## Alternate program

Special activities will be organised for Accompanying Persons, and for other members who may wish to participate. These will include visits to places of cultural and historic interest.

## Social activities

The Congress will open with a civic reception in the Extravaganza Gallery on the evening of Saturday, 5th October. An optional Congress Dinner has been planned for Tuesday, 8th October and will be held at Pymont House, an historic building that has been restored and is now used as a major reception centre.

## Accommodation

Accommodation ranging from youth parks, motel units, apartments and available.

## Transport

Regular air and road services connect Albany with Perth and other major Australian cities. A shuttle bus service will operate in Albany during the Congress for the benefit of delegates without their own transport.

## Post-congress tours

Although not a part of the official Congress program, organised tours that demonstrate the magnificent natural history of south western Australia will be available.

## Host organisation

The Congress will be hosted by Australia's leading bird research and conservation group, the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union (RAOU).



## Further information

A second circular will be sent to those people who return the attached reply slip or have already indicated their interest in the congress. Details relating to the scientific program, field trips, social activities, accommodation and transport will be provided. Prospective speakers will be asked for titles and abstracts of their papers at that time.

**Undated map of Lake Ballard, with annotations in ACI's handwriting. The following locations are marked: 'Crossover Lake (Fresh)', 'Camp Island', 'BaSt No.1 Breeding Colony', 'No.2 BaSt Breeding Colony' and 'Tripod Island'. The map is also annotated with 'Dist. between Tripod [Island] and Camp [Island] [is] 16km. Most birds [were] taken between the two islands. Check GBP's notes'. This annotation must refer to the adult BaSt and chicks that were collected (not banded/flagged) by GBP & ACI (see another RMCR, yet to be prepared, for details of the BaSt collecting that was done). 'Tripod Island' is a name conferred by JL on an island that he and ACI used to search for BaSt chicks from (for banding & flagging), using a telescope and tripod. From memory (JL, 31/01/2014) this was about as far west as they could go in their punts. It was too shallow to operate the punts further west.**





**Photos (4 pages of ‘thumbnail prints’), mainly taken by GBP and probably all with his camera, of BaSt banding & flagging activities at Lake Marmion on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June 1995.**

**Also photos (one page; photos supplied to JL by Ian Kealley) that were presumably taken by ACh, in which case they must have been taken on 11/06/1995 (not 12/06/1995) at Lake Marmion.**

**Note that JL also has other photos taken at Lake Marmion in 1995, but not of banding and flagging activities (see another RMCR, yet to be prepared, for these photos).**

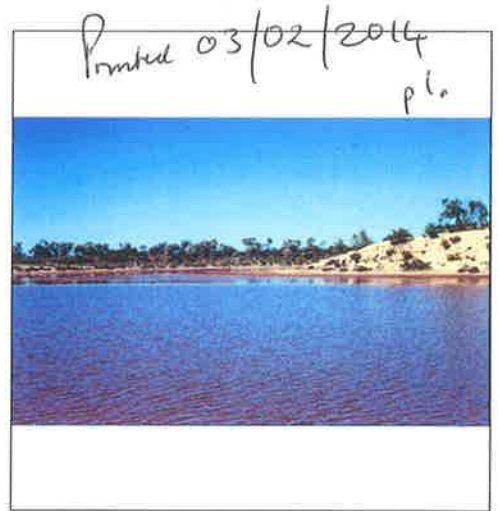




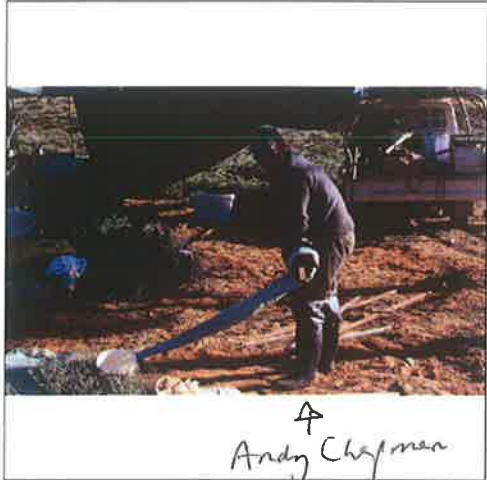
Marmion, 1995.06.10 [4335x] BaSt feeding [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.10 [4335y] BaSt feeding [GBP].bmp

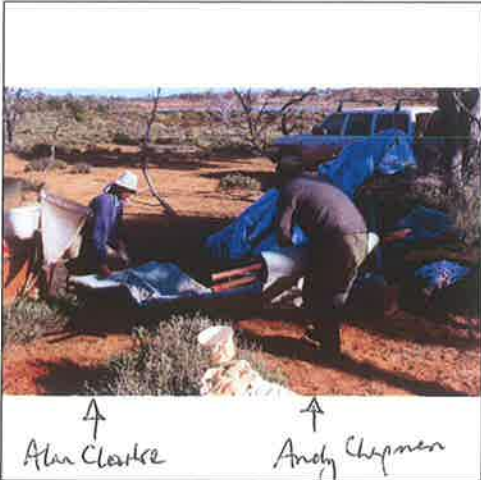


Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4336] camp [GBP].bmp



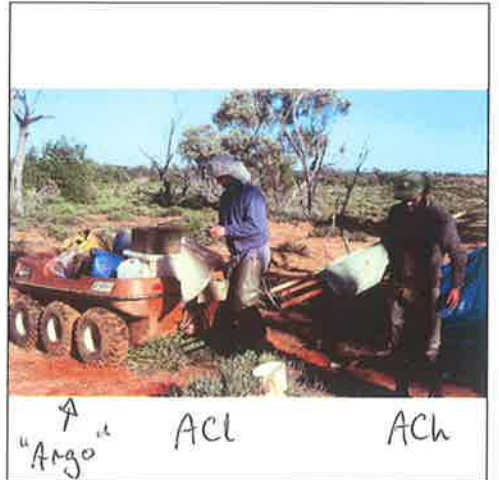
↑  
Andy Chapman

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4337] camp, AChapman rolls corral [GBP].bmp



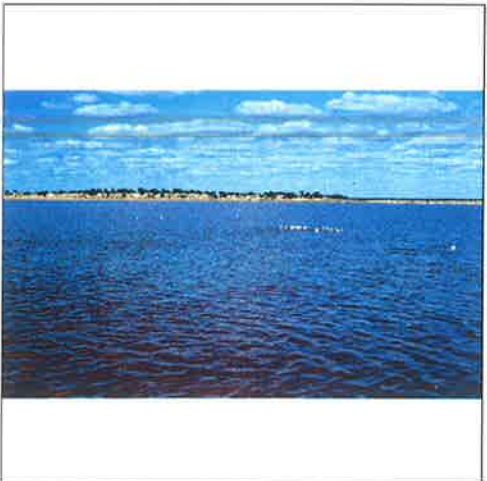
↑                      ↑  
Alva Clarke              Andy Chapman

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4338] camp, ACh Clarke rolls corral [GBP].bmp

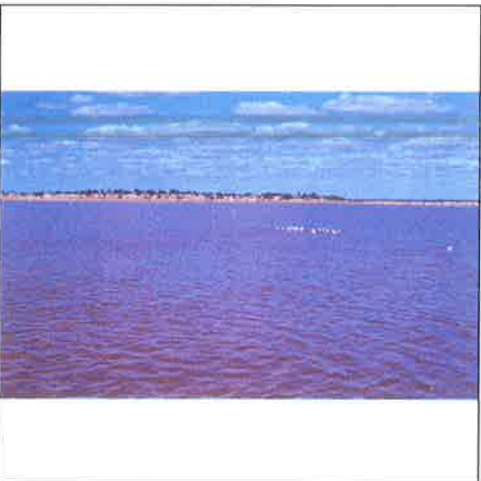


↑                      ↑                      ↑  
"Argo"              ACl                      ACh

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4339] camp, ACh w corral, ACl, Argo [GBP].bmp



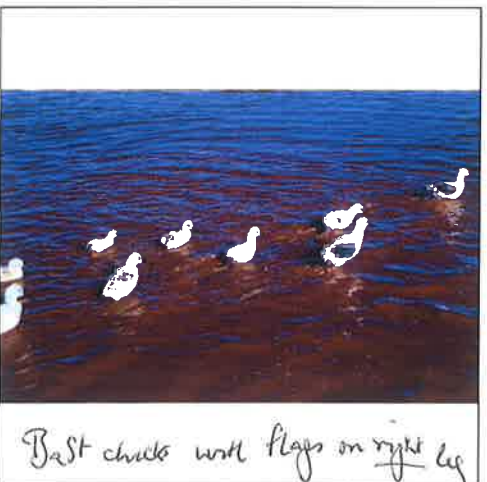
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4340x] BaSt creche [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4340y] BaSt creche [GBP].bmp

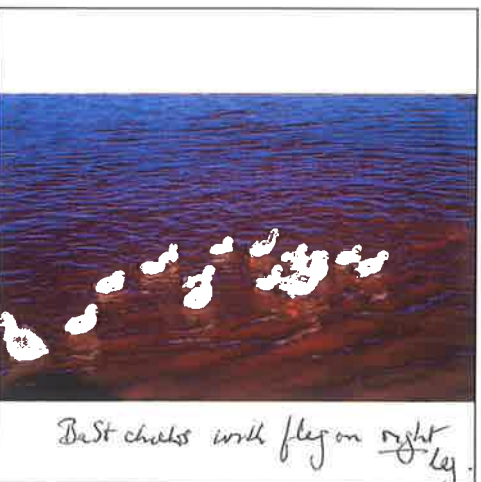


Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4341y] BaSt chick dead [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flags on right leg

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4342] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flag on right leg.

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4343] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flag on right leg.

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4344] BaSt chicks flagged, GBP.bmp





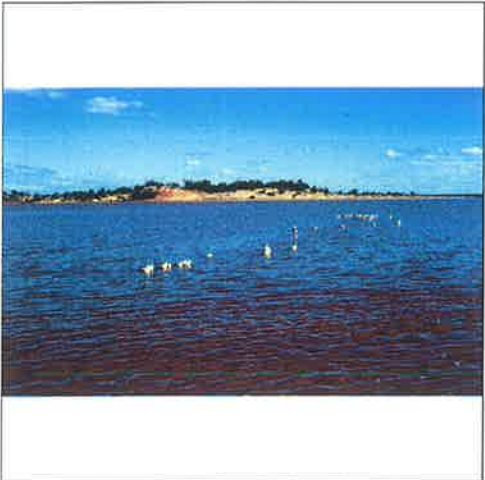
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4345] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4346] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4347] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4348] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



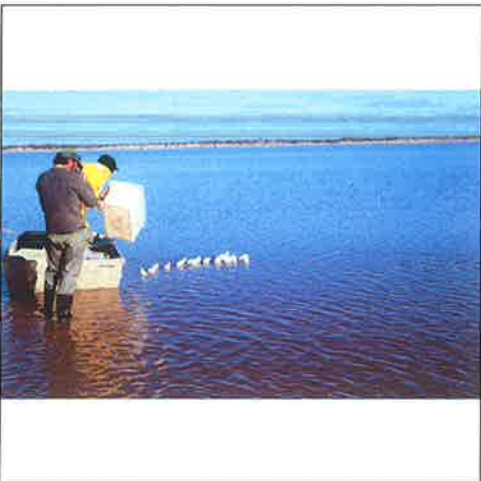
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4349] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4350] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4351] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



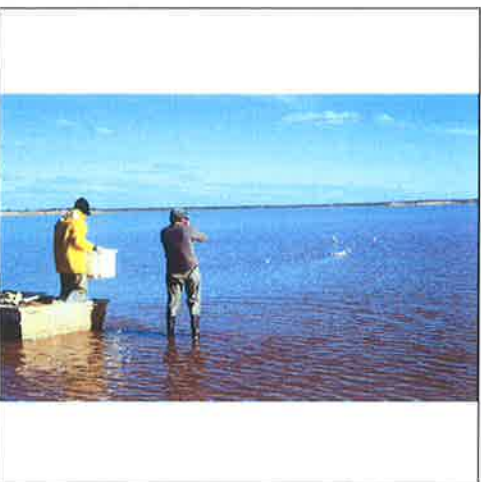
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4352] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4353] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4354] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4355] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4356] camp, punts, Argo [GBP].bmp





Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4357] camp [GBP].bmp

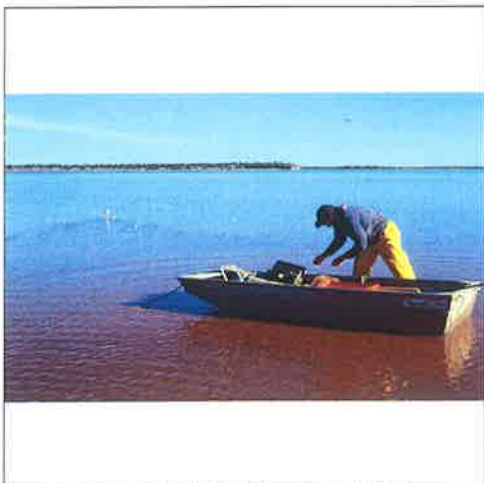


*Alan Clarke (ACI)*

Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4358] BaSt chick, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



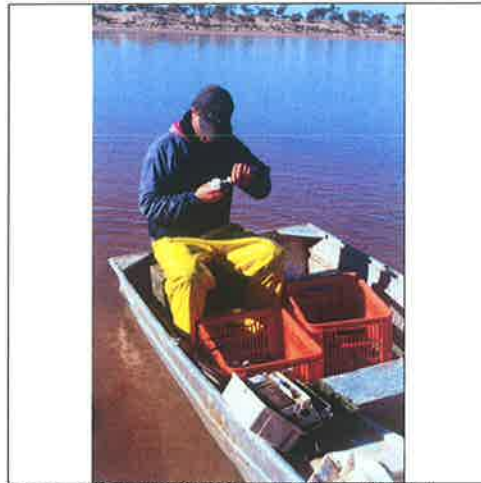
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4359] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



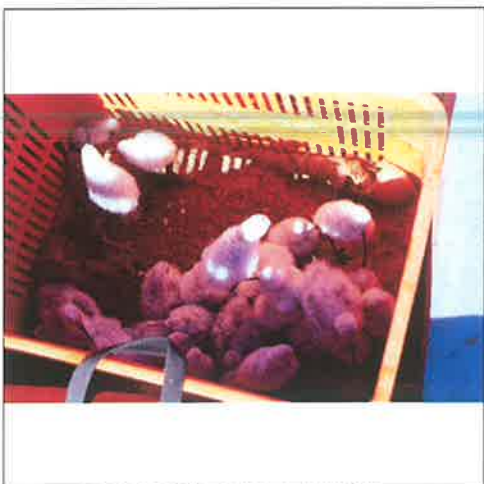
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4360] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4361] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4362] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4363] BaSt chicks in tub [GBP].bmp



*Flag on Left Leg*

Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4364] BaSt chick flagd by ACI [GBP].bmp



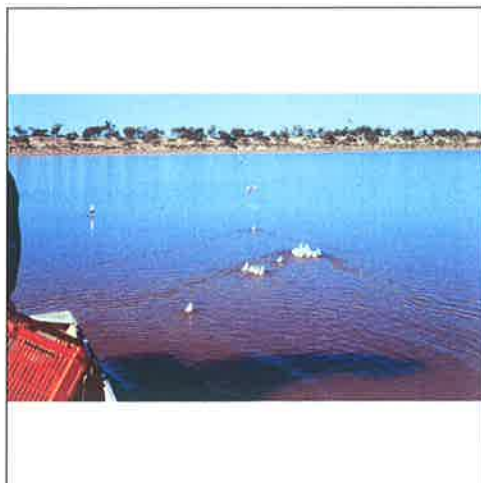
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4365] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4366] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4367] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4368] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4369] BaSt chicks, ACl, punt [GBP].bmp



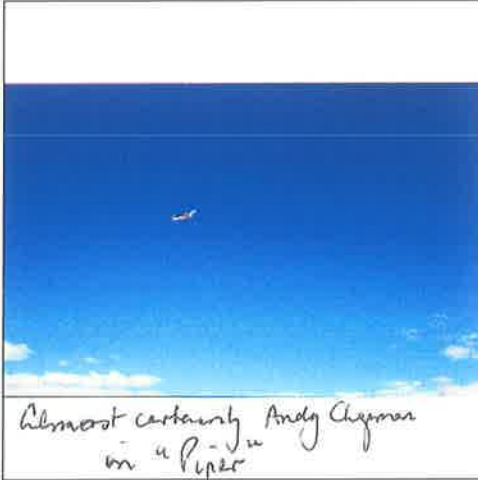
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4370] BaSt chicks, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4371] BaSt chicks [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4372] GBP, punt, Argo [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4373] plane overhead [GBP].bmp

Pages 1-4 printed 03/02/2014  
 These photos are in "BAST PHOTO SCANS"  
 subfolder of JL's "BANSTILT" folder.  
 3/2/14

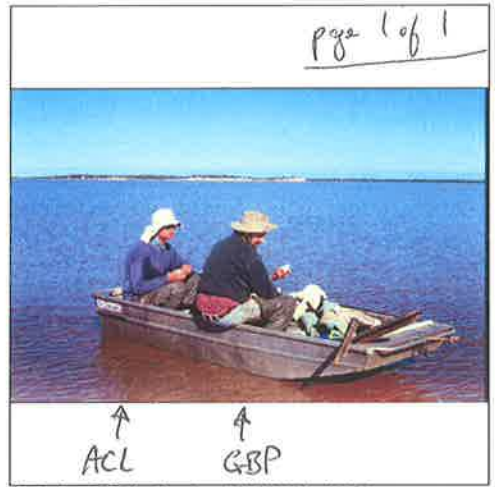




[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion BaSt chicks 11Jun1995 a.bmp



[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion BaSt chicks 11Jun1995 b.bmp



↑      ↑  
ACL    GBP

[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion, ACL GP, 13Jun1995.bmp



↑      ↑  
Alan Clabe    Grant Pearson

[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion, ACL GP, 13Jun1995.JPG

Printed 01/02/2014

These photos are in

"PHOTOS FROM IK SCANNED MAR 2013"

subfolder of JL's "BANSTILT"  
folder.

("IK" is Ian Kealley,  
Coolidfields Regional Manager  
for Dept. CALM.)

01/02/2014



**Faxed (19/06/1995) copy of 17/06/1995 report by GBP for JL, headed 'Report on Survey to Lake Ballard and Lake Marmion 8 June 1995 to 13 June 1995'. Inter alia reads 'A Chapman [ACh] had flown the lakes and reported no flightless [BaSt] chicks remained on [Lake] Ballard but young chicks found at [Lake] Marmion'. Report says GBP, ACl & ACh banded 200 BaSt chicks on left tibia and flagged 195 chicks on right tibia on Lake Marmion on 11/06/1995, and GBP & ACl flagged an unspecified number of BaST chicks there on 12/06/1995. An annotation by GBP reads 'Total flagged  $195 + 260 + 20 = 475$ '. How did GBP arrive at these numbers?.**

**Compare with JL's tallying (01/02/2014) of numbers in GBP's field notebook, indicating 200 were banded+flagged and 13 were flagged but not banded on 11/06/1995 and 158 were flagged but not banded on 12/6/1995. Did GBP submit numbers to ABBBS? Ask ABBBS An un-faxed copy of this report, with GBP's work hours annotated at the end, accompanies the faxed copy.**

**Note that the 'colony' and 'camp' coordinates referred to in this report (last page) by GBP refer to Lake Marmion and JL has plotted them (in 2014) on a Google Earth image at 06/10/2000 in this RMCR.**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100

154.  
155

Date:

19/6/95

To:

John Lane

At:

BSN

From:

Grant

No of Pages:

(including face sheet)

Message:

Copy for your consideration + queries

Thursday

Cheers

CP

Re visit to  
~~Survey~~ of Bellard + Merriam from

8 - 13 June 95

(1)

153.  
154.

REPORT ON SURVEY TO LAKE BALLARD AND LAKE MARMION 8 JUNE  
1995 TO 13 JUNE 1995

(Thurs)  
G Pearson and A Clarke in Toyota Landcruiser 7QE 236. Met  
Andy Chapman in Kalgoorlie on 9/6 and departed for Ballard.  
A Chapman had flown the lakes and reported no flightless  
chicks remained on Ballard but young chicks found at Marmion

(Fri)  
OBJECTIVES (from Jims notes) (Jim Lane's)  
Obtain further water chemistry data  
Measure extent of breeding site on Camp Island colony  
Download datalogger  
Withdraw gear from Camp Island  
Record waterbirds seen on crossover lake during trips

#### Results

Water samples for salinity, Total P (unfiltered) were  
collected from the camp island site and from the crossover  
lake site.

Camp Isd... Depth. 775mm... Temp? NA... pH. 8.67..  
Crossover ..... 53cm. .... 12.0.... ... 8.76...  
Invertebrate sweeps collected at each site

The extent of the breeding was measured and mapped for Camp  
island colony

Datalogger was downloaded and reset to record every hour and  
average every 6 hours  
Waterlevels varied from 398 to 689 for the 70 days it was in  
place.

All gear was withdrawn from the island and Crossover camp  
leaving the sites clear.

#### Waterbirds

##### Ballard

BaSt	6
Pipit	1
White-backed Swallow	1
Banded Lapwing	2
RNAv	7
Shel	2
Gytl	11
RCaP	2 plus 1 juv

##### Crossover Lake

Coot	11 plus 6 juv
MusD	3 male
	2 female
PaBD	2 (pr)
LiGb	1

(2)

+52  
153.

10 June

Packed and loaded gear and departed to Lake Marmion  
1108 to Jeedamya. Called in to station for first aid kit and  
to talk to Finlaysons. Neither were located. Left a note for  
the latter.

Drove on to Marmion via Bronc Rock fence line to lake edge.

**OBJECTIVES**

Use all available yellow flags

Band 200 chicks

Collect water samples

Record depth and install depth post

Locate colony if possible and measure extent and size

Photograph colony

Collect dominant vegetation

1545 arrived Marmion.

Installed depth gauge using an old survey line peg (second  
from camp side of shore) 770 mm above water level

depth at gauge was 220 mm

Installed second marker to denote location of site only

Collected water samples and sweep.

pH.. 7.39....

temp 12.0C.....

Argod to big island at 300 degrees from camp to reconnoitre.

Back to camp at nightfall

11 June 95

Began banding and flagging in argo towing 3m punt

Banded 200 on left tibia

Flagged (yellow) 195 on right tibia

Collected one family of Banded Stilts. 1 adult 5 chicks 3-5  
days old.

Family 1

1.1 39 gms yolk sac large

1.2 34 gms yolk sac large

1.3 33 gms yolk sac large

1.4 42 gms yolk sac large

1.5 32 gms yolk sac large

1.6 adult male 221 gms

wing length 199 mm

total head 118.7 mm

teste 14.4 mm

Brood patch yes Band full belly 100%

sweep taken

tot P

conductivity 46% (Andy Chapman)

pH 7.94

3

151  
152

12/6/95

Need to confirm ACh departed  
on 12/6 R 10/01/14

Andy Chapman departed for Kalgoorlie at 0700  
AC and GP headed east for 5 mins and then back west when it  
became obvious that there were no chick east of the camp.

Large numbers of loose creches and masses of adults  
extending out of site to the west and north.  
Drove up behind creche of 30 chicks and ran all down placing  
them in a nally bin with a cloth base. Flagged all and  
released with adults which had remained in attention.  
Caught brood of 5 and released with parent.  
Continued catching flagging and releasing all day releasing  
chicks with attending adults.  
Ages varied from 2 to 18 days. Total Flagged. 195  
+ 260  
10  
475

Collect

Family 2 Depth 29 cm  
5 young 1 adult

number	wt (gms)	mt	th	b	w	Oes	giz	sex	t
2a	34	24.4	51.5	27.3	-	Y	Y	-	-
2b	32	25.2	49.7	26.5	-	Y	Y	-	-
2c	30	25.6	52.3	31.8	-	Y	Y	-	-
2adult	238	35.0	111.5	74.7	-	Y	Y	m	17.2
brood patch yes Band strong belly 80%									R -

Family 3 Depth 3cm  
2 young 1 adult

3a	31	23.3	48.8	23.8	-	y	ostracods	y	-
3b	34	25.3	50.9	25.9	-	y	y	-	-
3adult	232	32.5	107.8	71.9	202	y	y	m	120.1 r14.6

brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%

Family 4 Depth 12 cm  
3 young 1 adult

4a	30	22.7	46.3	23.6	36	y	y	-	-
4b	34	23.5	49.8	26.3	23	y	y	-	-
4c	31	24.1	49.9	26.5	25	y	y	-	-
4adult	200	34.3	-	damaged bill	189	y	ost.	y	m 1 15.5 r 10.4

Brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%

Family 5 depth 9cm  
2 young 1 adult

5a	35	24.1	52.1	22.2	25	y	y	-	-
5b	34	24.9	50.2	29.8	25	y	ost, ants, coleo	-	-
5adult	205	32.0	104.9	68.5	193	y	ost, y	-	14.4
Brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%									R -



(4)

150.  
151.

13/6/95

0615 to colony on a bearing of 300degrees determined from flight of aircraft previous day.. Distance unknown

Gytl 4 large waders 8  
small waders 30 shel 2

Masses of adults and broods at north end of Big Island. Proceeded west along north side of Big island. Located colony with telescope from west end of Big Island. Proceeded west across expanse of water to 52cm deep.

Approaching colony 28 chicks and 18 adults in a loose creche. Numerous dead chicks about 1-5 days old along the strand line of the colony island.

300-400 adults at the waters edge in front of the central part of the colony. Agitated and flighty. Occasional dashes by 30-50 birds up the bank to the colony but they would almost immediately fly off in alarm. Peregrine falcon flew low over colony putting flock of Bast on the colony to flight. Wedge-tailed Eagle took off from rear of colony about 100m from active area and flew to a raised tussock about 200 m west of the colony where it sat and watched. On our approach of the colony the eagle departed and during measurements every stilt flew out of site out of sight.

Began measurements at 0846 and finished at 0931

#### Observations

21 chicks in nests with unhatched eggs in a small discrete area of the colony

About 100- 200 nests spread around a greater area of the colony, but within a roughly discrete area, with 2-3 eggs all very cold. No incubation for many hours perhaps days. Some covered with fine sand suggesting exposure during rain some days ago.

Numerous (up to 20) moribund chicks in nests in the discrete active area with an egg or often with one healthier but obviously cold stressed chick.

About 10 small chicks wandering through active part of the colony.

Measured length and breadth of colony plus several other satellite colonies.

Photos of colony

vegt'n samples collected

Measured twenty nests for diameter and dispersal

On our departure about 50 -80 adult bast returned and milled about at the front of the colony . Several ran into the active area but left quickly. We continued to observe until 0950

Chapman reports that the eagle was present on the colony at 1400 when Chapman flew the area and there were no Bast on the colony at all or in the area.

Much evidence of ancient nest attempts from egg shards.

#### Notes

In large groups of adults there <sup>were</sup> some copulation attempted. Two families of Rnav with two young each. One had adopted a Bast chick about 3 days old and bigger than Rnav chicks.

Left at the camp is argo inside trailer. Chains had been sprayed but require more

Engine needs oil change. Have to buy a vaccuum pump to get the oil out of the sump.

one jerry can of water

One 3m punt

lighting and generator

Depth post installed at colony 211 mm exposed

Coordinates of colony 29.44.36

121.29.13

camp 29.47.01

121.33.06

G Pearson

17 June 1995



①  
100

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+ 260  
20  
475

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	weight	metatarsus	bill	wing		gizzard		
			total head			oesophagus	teste	
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2a	34	24.4	51.5	27.3	-	y	y	- -
2b	32	25.2	49.7	26.5	-	y	y	- -
2c	30	25.6	52.3	31.8	-	y	y	- -
2adult	238	35.0	111.5	74.7	-	y	y	m 17.2
brood patch	yes	Band	strong	belly	80%			r -

Family 3 Depth 3cm  
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								r14.6

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								1 15.5
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13/6/95

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Much evidence of ancient nest attempts from egg shards.

Notes


5  
97

In large groups of adults there <sup>were</sup> ~~was~~ some copulation attempted. Two families of Rnav with two young each. One had adopted a Bast chick about 3 days old and bigger than Rnav chicks.

Left at the camp is argo inside trailer. Chains had been sprayed but require more  
Engine needs oil change. Have to buy a vaccuum pump to get the oil out of the sump.  
one jerry can of water  
One 3m punt  
lighting and generator


Depth post installed at colony 211 mm exposed

Coordinates of colony 29.44.36  
121.29.13  
camp 29.47.01  
121.33.06



G Pearson  
17 June 1995

Thurs	8/4	1400	→	2130	Hotel
Fri	9/4	0730	→	1900	Camp
Sat	10/4	0600	→	1900	
Sun	11/4	0630	→	1900	
Mon	12/4	0630	→	2350	
Tues	13/4	0600	→	2545	





**Photocopies of pages of GBP's field notebook covering his (with ACI and ACh) 8-13 June 1995 trip to Lakes Ballard and Marmion, during which they banded and leg-flagged BaSt chicks on Lake Marmion only (on 11-12/06/1995). These field notes include (understandably) details of adults, chicks, techniques, etc., that are not in GBP's subsequent report (17/06/1995) on this trip.**

Lk. Mammón

9/6/95



# NOTE BOOK

No. 561

Field Notebook of

Garrett Pearson (GSP)

2/10/2014





✓

8/6/95 1200

0600 WDC

1200 70 WDC

2120 1200 1200

2120 1200

WDC Fuel

WDC. Arg. 10.5

outboard oil

6 in to 1000 WDC

29. 200 1000

200 11.05

CDC

W/1000/2



4

Photo #

#21 egg shell: New Atlantic

22 "

x over blue Dolt

53cm

Back

10

Right 1

white behind woodpecker 1

Double legging 2

Rooster 7

Slack 2

Wing 11

white winged wren

little Crows (nest)

Red 18 + 1 juv

9/10/95

2000

Down Faler

2 weeks with yolk 3

3 weeks 28

Pass 1st

Wings 1

600 AM

0500

Mus heard frequently

Rooster 3



6

10/6/05

0530 UR

road.

0955 To Warner

1108 Sado mps

00 Turn Left Roadhouse

10.3 Turn at Morapit str

10.8 Railway & Fork

Take Left

21.5 will turn left through  
before will

Henderson

25.2 Track to R

30.4 Gate open

32.4 cattle pit & fence go straight  
ahead

40.6 Gate

43.1 Pipe track in from left

46.5 Gate closed

48.8 Outstation

7

48.8 Outstation - then gate

49.2

50.0 Gate closed

54.2 Gate closed

62.8 Gate closed

Continuing down Dorkley Rd

64.1 track in from left

White Tiger

quadrant?

67.4 Gate Turn R along

run

69.6 Grid

76.0 Grid

1315 hrs

Follow fence

78.5 Goongirre NP sign

turn right

track to 1350

87.5 Grid turn west along

fence 1359

8

87.5 West heading  
 92.2 Gole kept west  
 92.5 Gole → take Rt  
 93.4 Gole → take Rt  
 100.6 - X Red heads  
 continue on beach  
 103.1 Gole 2 down  
 103.4 drive over new fence  
 106?  
 1360 at bath

9

1545 To Lake  
 Depth at 77 sound  
 2nd leg from shore  
 Maxion ①  
 Swath 180 fms  
 equator to 150 m.  
 full depth of net  
 110 m  
 Top 8  
 Temp 18.0C  
 pH 7.39

1100 Arrived to big 1st to west  
 10-15000 Bath with 1000 clubs  
 in 500 yards  
 Depth 3.3-2  
 Shd. 1

2178

10

Drove to edge of lake & set  
up camp in Muga.  
Wine & berries for wife  
John & acorns  
Used 2nd bag for skin  
Placed over over bag.  
Neatly.  
Packed so very good  
Lots of robes of birds  
Accompanied by ads.  
Some families of young  
birds

764

12-2



12

11/6/95

Mammion

0930 5 caught

082 95501 - 5

Bird # wt

(1011) 506 - 19

145510gms 128

40

38

49

41

30.

13

Dead Bird # 1 Jul

wt 32gms

Platensis in Oos kept

BAT # 2 Jul

wt 3.5gms

Ostracods in Oos kept

1148

082 95518

1223 95604

1250

95607 - 37

1317 95607 - 630

1416 95638 - 69

1423 95670

1443 94

Reared with Ad. in  
abundance.

Older birds raised off

and leaving Ad. to go

comparative but eventually

with and again group of

young birds.

1507

Completed bands 95700

+ 13 flagged no bands

15

1312 1116

Landed on ground 16.2

16 dead birds 1-3 days old

inspected 15th No breeding

birds walked up on shore

→ 5th under 28. and exposed

was flying

Large group Ad. + just on board

landing (feeding) later

Yellow flag Rt Tibia

Band left Tibia

AC adams took this picture

Used at Bollard

check with Clark



16

11/6/95

1610

Collected Savinny #1

2 Ad. 5 chicks 2-5 days

Placed in bag & protected to Conf

Sweep

TOT P

5.1 469.00 (ACh)

PH 7094

Family 1.1 Chick 39gms Yolk

Sec' large

1.2 34 large Yolk sac

1.3 33gms large Yolk sac

1.4 42gms large Yolk sac

1.5 32gms large Yolk sac

17

Family # 106

Adult

WT 221gms

Male

Teste 14x4mm

WL 199mm

Fully developed, to most band

Total wear 118.7 (+BOL)

18

ms 704 = 700 Red  
for 12/10/95 19

Call Andy at 7pm

on 5270

at

7.05 on 5833

at

7.10 on 6070

Andy is 0108

Call Andy @

note

list

logs

single

Active

Access

4/01/95

12/6/95

0600 6000 ahead &amp; set

gear

0700 ready left

0800 Depart for logging

0842 Headed out for 5 min

No chains at all in diesel  
water.

Headed west for 10 min to

previous catch area

Large N's bore craters

with many of adults as

few as can see to West &amp;

Nth. 0900

Caught 30 &amp; Plogged left tuber

bore craters Drove up behind

&amp; ran behind group



22

Released with

Went to broods  
caught 5 in family &  
released with parent

caught 20 & released  
with 7 parents

0556

+ 23. released with 50 others  
Wt 3 in a box to decay.

+ 6 & families released

Adults flew back after 3 mins

1043

23

Warrior

214

1106 Collected family 2

2 = 29 cm

5 in family & 2

1 ad.

Not seen feeding  
covered enroute to flight

Release

29 47 46

121 29 13

at 1125

Argod to East Bay

caught 22 released w/ ad

hunch 1030

caught 9 released with ad



34

25 mixed ages.

Colony

3000 gon cord

1454 12 days 1st

20

Released first batch

amongst cords of

30 and 12 adults

El 16 167

Cords of 18 ad + 26 juv

born months previous of

2-5 day old birds

~~1st batch 2000 gon cord~~

<

2000 gon cord

1st batch 2000 gon cord

25

Early 5 = 900

4 = 1200

3 = 500

501 Jul. 5A

3x 35 gms 0.5 gms <sup>estimated</sup>

Wing 25 mm 913 left

Total head 52.1

Wing 24.1

Bill 22.2

5 B (5.2)

3x 34.0 gms

Wing 25 mm

Total Hd 50.2

Bill 29.8

Wing 24.9

26 12/6/95

Family 5 Ad

1 wt 205 gms

2 Head 68.5

3 Total 11 104.9

4 Males 32.0

5 Wing 193

ostracods seen left

egg left

egg

Tare 14.4

Breast with bubble

fully

Delly same

Good patch yes

27

Family 4

4A 30 gms

T Area 46.3

BW 23.6

WT 22.7

Wing 36

4B

wt 34 gms

WT 23.5

TA 49.8

BW 26.3

Wing 23

egg Back-filled with ostracods

egg left

28

12/16/95 Families

4C

wt 31gms

MT 24.1

TH 49.9

B - 26.5

Wing 25 mm

4 Doubly

wt 200gms

Bill - damaged

TH -

Wing 189

MT 34.3

Band Strong F.D

BAND

Band Piths Yes

Oes Ostrocods +

giz kept

Teeth 15.5

10.4

29

3A wt 31gms

MT 23.3

TH 48.8

B 23.8

W -

Oes Ostrocods

giz kept

3B

wt 34gms

MT 25.3

TH 50.94

B 25.9

W -



30

12/6/95

Bast 3 Adult

WT 232

Bill 71.9

TH 107.8

MT 320.5

W. 202

Brood Patch Yes

Ovid Fully developed

Ovary Same

♂

Tarsus 20.1

Height

14.6 Right

31

12/6/95

Family 2A

WT 34.9ms

MT 24.4

TH 51.5

B 27.3

W —

Oes empty

2-b 320.7 gms

TH 49.7

B. 26.5

MT 25.2

W. —

Oes

913



2C

WT 30.9g

TH 52.0

B 31.8

MT 25.6

W —

0.25

5.7

Adult 2



WT 23.8

TH 111.5

B 74.7

MT 35.0

W 20.8

Grand Nid. Yes Grand Sings

89% belly 80%

Taste 17.2

12/6/95

0625 To colony

Sage 4

BTOS 8

SWdr 30

names of Nuts about

at NW end of Big 1st

2-3000 Wd

of wire 1000 with no child

Recorded west along NW side

of Big 1st - in 1000 Wd

water

Over to top of west

end of Big 1st &amp;

with Telescope 1000 Wd

water to back on shore

of westward

36

## Approaching Colony

24 chicks 18 Ad in  
1200 creche 500m away  
numerous dead chicks  
on strand line  
at colony at 0755

500 adults at water

edge in storm

Rearing 1200 low over

Block at colony out into lake

300m 1 boat over colony

at 0755 to SW

Widge tailed booby took off

as Reagin flew close to it.

looked off west Took off

from over 300-400m away

37

Birds very nervous with WTE

Sitting 400m away on crest of low

sampled dune. Constantly flying off

the water & turning back up the

hill

About 30 chicks at water edge with

moss on Ad's

Two chicks about 400m from colony

feeding on fly with along water edge

Others preening at water edge or

Just above it.

3 attempting cop'n with unwilling

Adress ♂ or ♀?

1 Ad on banded (brown) Gullies

trying to attract chick who came

f



Little Edican swaddled out  
 along Yellow Lane Black hair

Shades 11, 12, 13  
 Volving from SE

Sig 1.

#2 dog Volving and dead  
 1-3 days

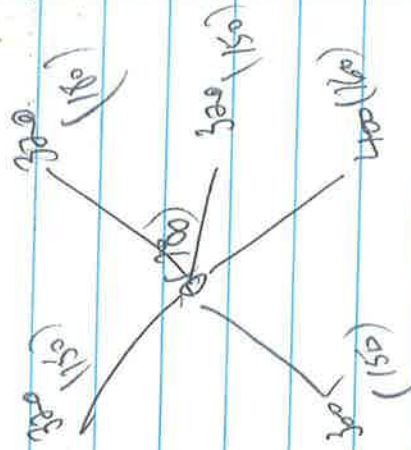
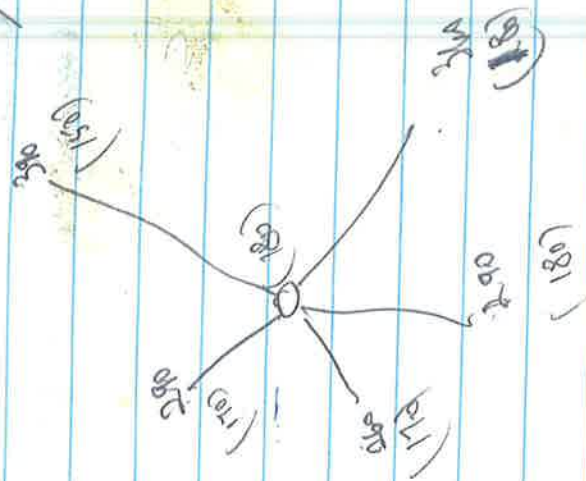
2: water with cubes  
 traces of adults described  
 along length of 10 ft  
 is returned

29 44 36  
 121 29 13

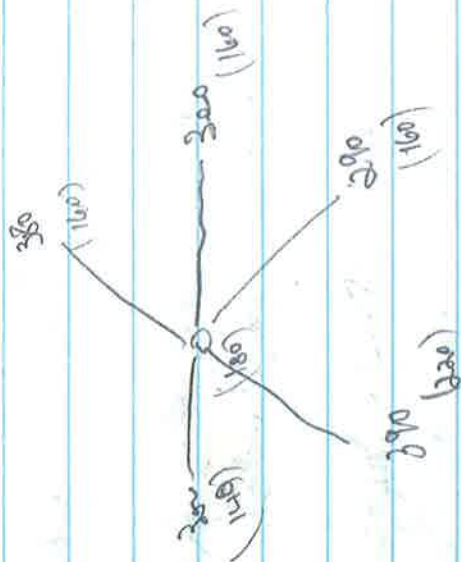
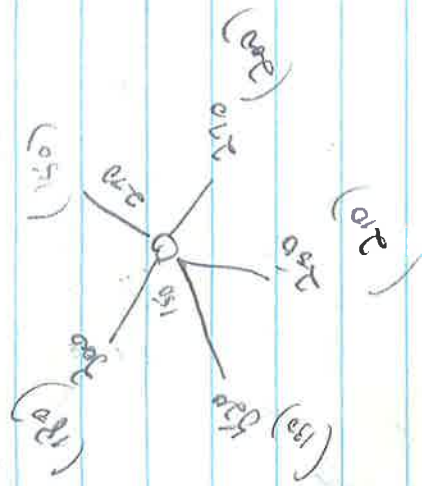


40

( ) diameter



41



42

Dogfish Post all exp  
Began measuring 0845  
later at 0931

No ABC 1st seen 13d  
30 returned on our departure  
but would not land  
escorted us off (12)  
about 300 m from Cd.  
Not covered about 400m

WTC was at edge of colony  
when we approached

0945 Birds began  
regrouping on the  
shore very flighty  
Some (2) chicks came down to  
shore & found Rats

43

Estimated 100 nests with 1  
to 4 eggs mostly 2+3  
21 with chicks in nests  
Main part of colony finished  
more eggs in nests to Nth  
do apparently active and  
but all eggs 3+4's + some 5's  
Stone cold + appeared covered  
in sand grain suggesting desiccation  
last week

On return 2nd 4 chicks  
foraging on shore

Evidence that the region had  
lost the birds after the  
rock since daybreak  
Sound mostly hatched birds  
had died from exposure  
other 1 day were almost dead  
other 2 day strong & fair  
was ok.

Seagulls / island covered with  
tropical low sampling + notes  
Colony even denuded quickly  
for *Sandrocenia* sp.  
Photo of ♀  
Samples of dominant  
sp.

13/6/95  
Families on Pitca

id	chick	age days	Del
2	4	2	
1	2	4	together
2	5	4	
1	2	4	1
2	1	4	3
3	5	4	1
1	1	4	
1	2	4	
2	1		
2	1	Best + 1 Real chicken	
56	1		
Photo of	2-3000	Newton	
	(2500)	(500)	
2	8		7
1	3		4
24	10		7



46

1st in last of 1st pc  
feeding in shallow 15-10  
cm

Some Cop's occurring on plate

Circle of 60 fish running  
around in 100-150 cm  
have significant control by  
one movement.

2nd 1st feeding in  
in 5-10 cm

Real feeding in 5 cm  
large mass fish to left  
of each feeding in  
shallow

47

Colon 1st had much evidence  
of egg fragments from previous  
nesting attempts higher up on  
ridge.

Scattered small colonies

Also measured all



Left

5 leads

Tool Box

Shed

352 water Drinking

2 seeds

Card

29 m 01?

121 33 06

Callie to Post 992  
123 67

800 mm

112 deep

North

Tac 2

Tool

Water

Card

0:00 Camp

3:04

Dam Pansu Tr 161

3:06

Thru iron gate  
Take left track

14:04

Turn left + gate  
Follow fence cont19:01 Gwangju Rd Jct  
grid Turn Rt

33:04

Toskin Rd Jct  
Turn Rt

44:07

Kol Mungje Rd

83 - 161 = 78 days

8

689

505

85

65

92 unsplotted or Balled 248

92 16:00 398

95

551

101

590

132

604

161

189

Arrived Hk 2300

Wkoo 2330

**Notes made by JL that appear to record information GBP communicated to JL by radio telephone on Sun 11/06/1995 at 5.50pm. Inter alia these notes read 'have used the 200 leg bands' [which would indicate they only had 200 bands to use] and '220 done today (removed flags from 20!) therefore 200 to date' and 'have 200 flagged' [contrast with GBP's typed report of 17/06/1995 above which indicates 195 flagged on 11/06, and with JL's tallying (01/02/2014) of numbers in GBP's field notebook, indicating 200 were banded+flagged and 13 were flagged but not banded on 11/06/1995. Perhaps GBP was giving JL approximate figures by phone].**

**There is also mention of chick ages and catching methodology in these notes. E.g. 'Drive to creche with Argo – chase 20-30 and take back to boat [to band/flag]'. 'Creches c.30. Try to get all then release [after banding/flagging] – adults coming back'.**



Morton CST - 03 9 589 4901

106  
149

Radio Telephone call from Grant Sun 11/6/95 ✓  
11/8/95  
5.50 pm

— they are  
— at Morton - arrived yesterday.

or 6th? ✓?  
ie June?

— found 10-15,000 adults  
several 1000 chicks

— 188

220 done today. (removed flags from 20!) ⇒ 200 to date

— have used the 200 fly heads

— have 200 flagged.

— collected 1 family  
orchards & WestMere

most 10-20 cm

too shallow  
for bank.

— bank v. soft - depth up to 30 cm

— with look for colony - not

— drive to creeks with Angus - chase 20-30 +  
take back to bank

— creeks c 30

try to get all then release - adults coming  
back.

— chicks have  
oldest, well developed 1° 2° + all body except head  
will fly → 1 week ⇒ 3 weeks old? + mump

also chicks

— 2-4 days old.

— have magic computer.

Andy Flight that borrowed  
photo + had where  
deleted to Grant 7pm  
me listen on radio



**Fax (07/06/1995) from JL to GBP with a four-page 'Revised Program Lake Ballard June 1995' with instructions for GBP, ACh and ACI regarding survey and other work to be undertaken at Lake Ballard and Lake Marmion from Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> to Wed 14<sup>th</sup> June 1995. Inter alia the program refers to: 'leg flag glue'; 'I have mailed Australia Post to you [from Busselton, to Woodvale] a bag of leg flags ...', and 'Band and flag flightless chicks [at Lake Marmion from Sun 11/06 onwards]'. There is also a detailed description of the catching, banding & flagging methodology to be followed, including:**

**'band on right tibia (i.e. above 'knee') and flag on left tibia every chick';  
'remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate 'wings' with knife)';**

**'if you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only';**

**'record band numbers of chicks in same brood (where identifiable) and band numbers used each day'.**

**See JL's fax of 02/06/1995 below to CDTM for the 'draft work program'.**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
**FAXED**  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO. (097) 521 432

143.  
146.

TO: GRANT PEARSON

URGENT: YES ~~NO~~

AT: WRC

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: J.L.

DATE: 7/6/95

Your Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised program - please ring me  
when have read.

No. of pages inc. this page: 6

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

REVISED PROGRAM: LARRY PEARSON TO PEARSON

[Grant: modify program as circumstances dictate. The important thing is to get the main tasks done]

**Thurs 8 June**

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

**Fri 9 June**

GP and AC1 visit CALM office and pick up Argo keys (from June), wheel for trailer (from Andy Chapman) etc., make radio arrangements and telephone Jeedanya and Lake Marmion station (name?) to advise of plans.

GP, AC1 and ACh drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and withdraw all gear from Camp Island to Crossover Lake. Camp there overnight.

[Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure this lake's depth and take water samples]

GRANT: REVISED LIST OF SOME ODDS AND ENDS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- \* Is the leg flag glue at Woodvale (if not, it is on Camp Island)? You should obtain another tube in any case as the first tube probably won't do more than 50-100 flags.
- \* I have mailed Australia Post to you a bag of leg flags, two plastic weighing cones & your pocket radio.
- \* Banding pliers in dissecting box at Woodvale? I think pair also at Ballard (Camp Island or in trailer).
- \* I assume you have a work camera you can take.
- \* If you are buying film the 100 ASA Ektachrome is excellent (remember to have Churchills number them).
- \* You will need to make another wing rule (no less than 25cm). I have the oversized rule from the last trip.
- \* The dial calipers are stuffed. You need to buy or borrow a "pair" of good quality vernier calipers
- \* You should have received copy of fax from Mark to me concerning his last trip and location of Argo keys etc. Note that ABC tent has gone back to Melbourne.
- \* Andy Chapman has one tyre from trailer in Kal (was flat, now fixed).
- \* 10' punt from Bsn is bungless.

REVISED PROGRAM LAKES BALLARD & MARMION JUNE 1995

[Grant: modify program as circumstances dictate. The important thing is to get the main tasks done]

**Thurs 8 June**

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

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[Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure this lake's depth and take water samples]

144  
144  
(2)

### Sat 10 June

Boat to Camp Island. Measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island

Precisely measure (in order to precisely determine area) the boundaries of the nesting area of 1st breeding island).

Assuming no or very few flightless chicks encountered, return to camp on south side of Crossover Lake, withdraw all gear (except water level recorder & droppers/pickets) from Ballard area, head for Lake Marmion and establish new campsite near its shore.

### Sun 11 June to Tues 13 June

At Lake Marmion.

[Note that ACh needs to be back in Kalgoorlie on Sun night]

- i) Establish depth gauge(s) and on first and last days measure water depth, water temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps at a marked location (i.e. same routine as previously at Ballard)
- ii) Locate flightless chicks, collect 5 family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (details below).
- iii) Band and flag flightless chicks (details below).
- iv) Attempt to locate Marmion nesting island. If successful:

- \* measure (or pace) the nesting area so its area ( $m^2$ ) can be determined.
- \* photograph island and nesting area.
- \* sample dominant plant species.
- \* measure diameter & depth of a scattered sample (20-30) of nest scapes.
- \* in unlikely event hatching chicks being led off island, record number of chicks & adults reaching water in sample (50-100 will suffice) of family parties. Repeat at 1-2 day intervals if not too time consuming (the other work is more important than repeats).

### Wed 14 June

Stockpile Argo and other appropriate gear (one punt?) at Lake Marmion, Station Hstd or Kalgoorlie. Return to Perth with remainder.



148.  
143. (3)

### Collecting Methodology:

- \* AC1 in one punt and GP & ACh in other.
- \* choose **solitary** family parties with **single** adults.
- \* ACh shoot the adult, gather chicks and dispatch (ACh technique).
- \* Attach waterproof label to each bird and label "Adult (1-5)" and "Chick (1a, 1b etc, 2a, 2b etc to 5a, 5b etc)".
- \* weigh each bird.
- \* record "completeness" of breast band and black belly of adults.
- \* record presence/absence of brood patches (bare skin) on either side of sternum.
- \* dissect out (scissors & tweezers) oesophagus & gizzard (incl proventriculus) of each bird. Store each separately in 70% alc with label (Adult 1, Chick 1a etc **plus date**).
- \* while GP & ACh do the above, AC1 to measure water depth, take water samples, do standard invert sweeps (as on last trip).
- \* keep bodies (take back to camp at end of day and that night **sex and measure gonad size of the adults** and measure bill, head+bill, metatarsus & wing of adults and chicks).
- \* **retain bodies of chicks (and preferably of adults also) to give to WA Museum (Ron J. is keen to have even if split up middle & bloody).**
- \* carefully replace alcohol (except dregs) after 24 hrs or so. Replace again one week later.

### Banding and Flagging Methodology (based on water deep enough to use boats)

- \* when find chicks, have GP, AC1 & ACh in 12' punt towing 10' punt.
- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
- \* Initially at least, AC1 driver, GP catcher and **bander/flagger**, ACh flagger
- \* **band on right tibia** (i.e. above "knee") and **flag on left tibia** every chick.
- \* note that the bands are difficult to close properly and patience is required.
- \* to apply flags, hold flag open, slip onto tibia, apply glue to both surfaces, hold together for 1 minute (timed).
- \* note that flag surfaces to be glued **must** be clean and dry and **must not** move at all while being held together.
- \* remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate "wings" with knife)
- \* AC1 & ACh can advise on the most efficient tactics in catching and returning chicks
- \* If you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only.
- \* record band numbers of chicks in same brood (where identifiable) and band numbers used each day.

138.  
142. (4)

If too shallow for boats, note that Mark found Stilt very shy of people on foot but very accepting of Argo.

#### OTHER TASKS

- \* record dates of definite drinking by Stilt for comparison with salinity.
  - \* make notes of any predator/scavenger activity you see.
  - \* record other waterbirds seen on Lake Ballard.
  - \* keep me informed (every day or two) of progress/findings.
-

**Fax (05/06/1995; typed 01/06/1995) message from Mark Lamble, ABC Natural History Unit, to JL with a 'rough diary' of observations he made while at Lake Ballard from 09/05 to 17/05/1995. Note that they encountered a BaSt chick with a leg band on 10/05/1995 '... about 3kms north west of Camp Island at approximately 2pm. ML regrets they did not manage to record the band number. A map of where the stilt chicks were is attached (and where they camped and the vehicular route to it). JL faxed a copy of this fax to CDTM on 06/06/1995.**

# Facsimile Cover Sheet

To: Jim Lane

Company: CALM, Busselton District

Phone: (097) 521 677

Fax: (097) 521 432

From: Mark Lamble

Company: ABC Natural History Unit

Phone: 03-524-2341

Fax: 03-524-2373

Date: 06/01/95

Pages including this  
cover page: 5

## Comments:

Jim

Here is information as to where everything is and the state of things when we left.

1. In the Kalgoorlie CALM lock up: 87 Ward street, Kalgoorlie, we have left the Outboard Motor and fuel tank (1/2 full), the CALM H.F. radio (the antenna is still up on Camp island), several empty water Jerry cans and one empty fuel Jerry can.
2. At the CALM Kalgoorlie office, the Argo key was left with June Anderson for safe keeping.
3. We left the first aid kit at Jeedamy station in the shearers' quarters.
4. The 12 ft and 10 ft punts are on the north side of Crossover Lake as are the trailer with lifejackets, the Tirfor winch, and one 20 Lt drinking water Jerry can (full).
5. The Argo is where you left it last trip, we washed it with fresh water and lubed the chains with the adhesive lubricant. The bungs are attached to the steering brakes as we found them. The fuel tank is a little over 1/2 full.

3 wheels only.

The 4th is with Andy Chapman



*Count take another long card?*

6. On Camp Island we have taken our tent. Your pegs are in Grants shelter. Also in Grants Shelter are the generator, the electric outboard, both 12 volt batteries (the big yellow one we charged up and the other one still reads as being charged), the gas bottle and burner (we didn't use it), the cutlery box and some odds and ends of non perishable food, the lights (we did take back our power cord though yours is still there), a Jerry of unleaded fuel, 10 Lt of drinking water and your other bits and pieces. Your outboard oil is still on Camp Island as we bought our own <sup>from</sup> in Kalgoorlie.

7. The outboard while running well is a bit difficult to start when cold. It is very easy to flood so use the choke sparingly and do not pump the bulb to pressurise the system. If in doubt use only a small amount of throttle and keep pulling.

I think that takes care of the bits and pieces of gear that we used on the last trip. Here is a rough diary of where we were, the weather for the day and some of the things we saw during the last trip that I think will interest you and may be of value.

- Two* 09/5/95 Collected gear, food, fuel etc. in Kalgoorlie and drove up to Crossover Lake that night. Rained over night, just a mm or three
- Had* 10/5/95 To Camp Island and then up the lake to the north <sup>past</sup> to reconnoitre way to chicks seen from the air. I got approximately 15kms up but then water became too shallow and forced to return to camp. Wind NW strong enough to flatten our tent. Rained overnight again less than five mm.
- 11/5/95 To mainland to explore route to north western end of the lake to find the crèches via station tracks (see map and instructions). Returned to Camp Island. Wind NW strong but moderating, overcast rain and showers. Rained overnight again.
- 12/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and deserted colony. Weather partly cloudy, but fine. Wind light and variable. Clear cold night.
- 13/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and second colony Island. Weather fine, some high cloud increasing. Wind south easterly, light but strengthening.
- 14/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and second colony Island. Weather cloudy but fine, Wind south easterly moderate strength.
- 15/5/95 Moved from Camp Island to New camp on NNW shore of lake. (see map). Weather cloudy but fine, Winds SE changed to N/W variable strength.
- 16/5/95 Filmed chicks on lake. Weather fine and warm patchy cloud. Winds SE moderate strength.
- North-West* ✓

149  
131

17/5/95 Filmed chicks on lake. Returned to Crossover lake camp.  
Weather fine but cloud increased during the day. Winds NW/  
moderate to strong. Rain overnight heavy at times

18/5/95 Returned to Kalgoorlie

the 1st

#### OBSERVATIONS

1. On Friday 12th May, many adult birds, estimate of 2,000 to 3,000 individuals, all arrived in large flocks to the south and south west of the main breeding island. These birds did not appear to be feeding but formed into a large flock that moved right up to the island. Within the flock many birds were apparently trying to copulate while still in the water. The flock was very vocal in fact this was what got our attention in the first place. When they reached the island they remained in the water were not seen to come up onto land however they did disappear behind the colony island. They were very flighty and for this reason I did not try to approach them. I shot several minutes of material for Camp Island 20 metres south of your observation point up on Camp Island. They all departed when a wedge tailed eagle flew in and landed on the breeding island. This activity was not repeated while we were on Camp Island.

2. While we were on Camp Island we saw many flocks of up to 25 birds flying from the west to the east and east to west. I feel that the Adult birds were feeding to the east and returning to the west where they were seen in large numbers, (1000,s), to the south east of the main body of chicks.

3. The water surrounding Camp Island appeared to contain many more brine shrimp than our previous trip. This is an empirical observation only, but we both felt that there was about a four fold increase in numbers visible in the water. We also shot footage of the brine shrimp.

subjective

4. On Wednesday 10th May, I encountered a small group of seven chicks and three adults, about 3kms north west of Camp Island at approximately 2pm. One of these chicks was banded but I did not manage to record its band number (sorry about that).

5. When we moved to New Camp to the north west of Camp Island (see map), we found hundreds perhaps thousands of chicks all in various stages of development (stages all on film). On the 17/5/95 Campbell and I both saw chicks flapping along about 30cm to 50cm above the water/mud for about 10 to 15 metres. These were the oldest chicks we had seen. This was seen only three times during our time at New Camp.

the flapping time

48  
130

6. The chicks were spread out over the lake in loose clusters of groups of 3 to 20 odd birds. It was hard to tell where one group started and another ended with chicks of all ages frequently being present in one group. Interspersed with the chicks were adults that acted like sentry/alarm birds, that at any sign of a threat would lead the chicks toward deeper water or away from the threat. It did not appear that the adults were attached to any particular chicks as they came and went from group to group quite frequently. It may be of interest that during the time at New Camp I saw very few brine shrimp in the water.

7. When we moved to New Camp we took the Argo in the tandem trailer. On the lake the Argo did not fare well, constantly sinking and bogging in soft spots in the mud. However it was totally accepted by the birds who came to within feet of it on several occasions and so made a great filming/observation platform. If the birds saw a human form on the shore or out in the lake they would run for hundreds of metres and not return until the person was long gone.

The final page of this fax is a map that we have marked up with the route to New Camp. John Finlayson (Jeedamya) gave us the general directions and told us of the track that goes right to the edge of the lake at New Camp that I have marked on the map.

Best of luck on your next trip and if there is anything I can do to help you please don't hesitate to contact me via our fax number as I am working very odd hours at the moment and out more often than not.

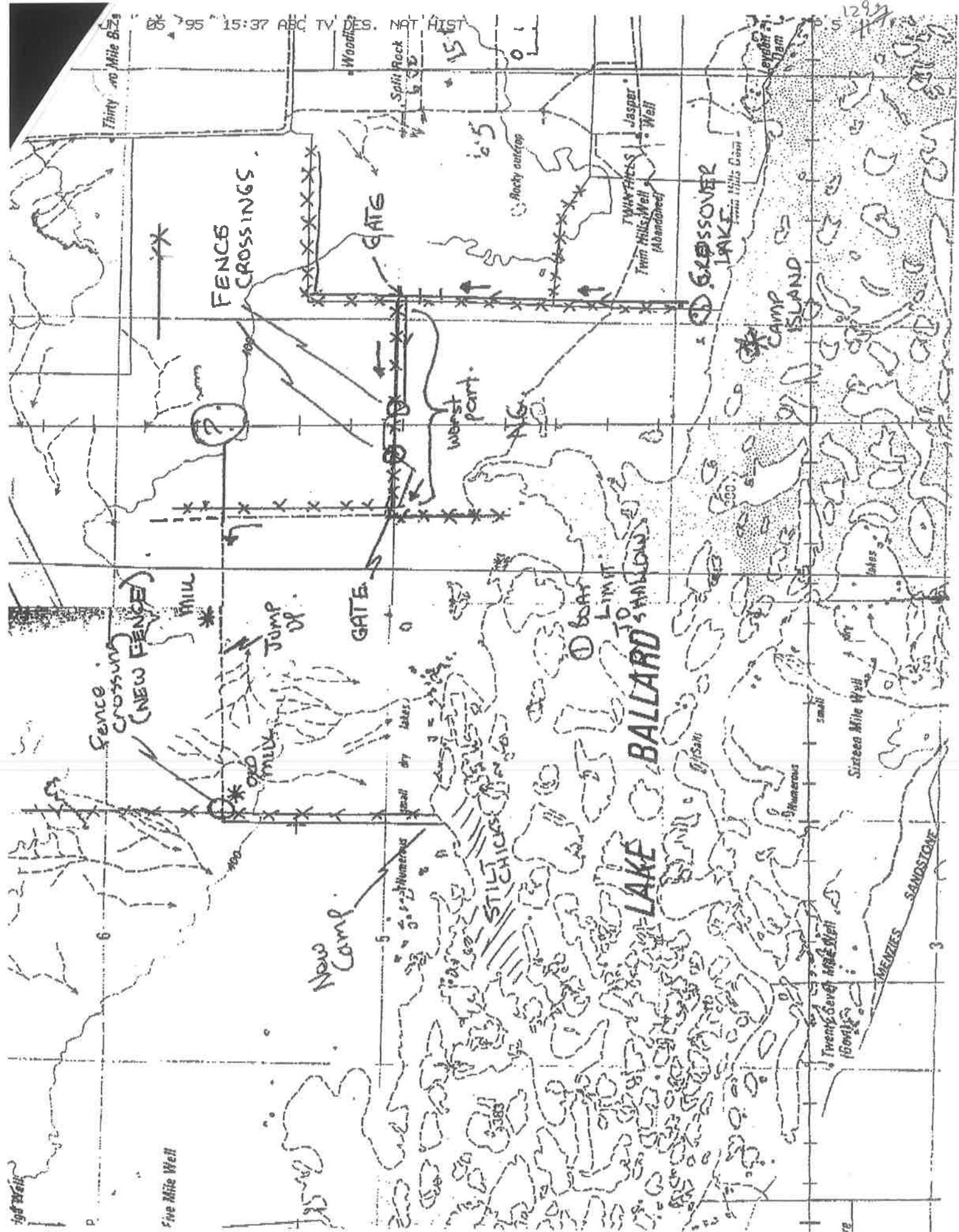
Regards



Mark Lambie

Mark said  
Argo would be  
good catching  
platform  
Also good  
for leading  
chicks where  
ground firm

P.S. Jim the fully marked up  
map will follow tomorrow.





DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

1340  
435  
FAXED

TO: MARK LAMBLE URGENT: YES / NO

AT: ABC NAT HIST

Fax No.

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 6/6

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

Many thanks for comprehensive fax  
info is most useful. ~~the~~ I have  
faxed copy to Chris today for his info.  
~~the~~ Also said I thought you were likely to call him  
today.

No. of pages inc. this page: 1

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Clear.

**Fax (02/06/1995) from CDTM to JL with suggestions on draft works program that JL had sent him on same date. (see below). Inter alia CDTM wrote: 'page 4. I thought band was on left tibia and flag on right tibia. But I may have been wrong. Please re-check your official permission (& note I may have done it wrongly)'. 'page 4. I presume you are recording band numbers put on members of same brood (where identifiable). If not, then I think we should try to'.**

From Clive Minton 03-9589-4901

2/6/95

To Tim Lane 097-521-432

Many thanks for copy of draft work programme. Seems fine to me & I have only minor suggested additions.  
 (1.1) Try & get some photographs of chick flocks from the air. Will enable us to cross check count estimates if proper cross referenceable records are kept. Also for publication purposes.

(1.3) "Bury bodies". Wouldn't it be worth keeping these sexed & measured breeding birds, or at least giving them to Ron Johnson at the museum to make skins? Who knows but in due course with a good enough sample we may be able to find consistent differences in breeding plumage between the sexes. It seems a waste not to make fullest possible use of "sacrificed" birds.

(1.4) I thought band was on left tibia & flag on right tibia. But I may have been wrong. Please recheck your official permission (note I may have done it wrongly !!).

(1.4) I presume you are recording band numbers put on members of same brood (where identifiable). If not, I think we should try to.

(1.4) If a new colony is found we need to take steps to get more data in areas where we are still deficient i.e. incubation period & timing of incubation duties. Also need to collect data to see if average clutch sizes are same as first nesting attempt.

Therefore: eggs in "just laying" nests need to be marked, clutches in "land" areas need to be counted and/or photographed.

Hope these suggestions can be incorporated into final work programme.  
 Best wishes, Clive

**Fax (02/06/1995) from JL to CDTM (also sent to GBP) with: ‘draft work program for Grant [GBP] and co. to work to next week. I ... would appreciate any comments’. The draft program includes a detailed description of the catching, banding & flagging methodology to be followed, including ‘band on right tibia (i.e. above ‘knee’) and flag on left tibia every chick’. Note that there are two copies of the draft program here – one with subsequent annotations by JL and one without. See JL’s fax of 07/06/1995 above to GBP for ‘Revised Program’.**



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: CLIVE MENTON URGENT: YES / NO

AT: MELB.

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 2/6

Your Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanying is a draft Work Program for  
Grant and co. to work to next week.

I thought you would be interested to see it  
and would appreciate any comments. Cheers

No. of pages inc. this page: 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Jim Lane



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT

FAX NO: (097) 521 432

125. 126 124

TO: GP. URGENT: YES/NO

AT: WRC

Fax No. ....

FROM: J.L

DATE: 2/6

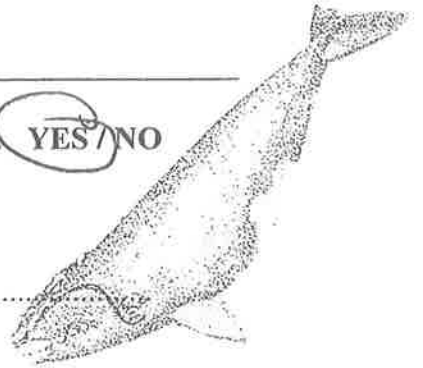
Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

Re Bellerud - Draft

No. of pages inc. this page: 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible



129  
125  
124  
①

Some urgent

GRANT: SOME ODDS AND ENDS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- \* Is the leg flag glue at Woodvale? You should obtain another tube in any case as the first tube probably won't do more than 50-100 flags.
- \* I have today mailed Australia Post to you a bag of leg flags and two plastic weighing cones. + your radio
- \* Banding pliers in dissecting box at Woodvale?
- \* I assume you have a work camera you can take
- \* If you are buying film the 100 ASA Ektachrome is excellent (remember to have Churchills number them).
- \* You will need to make another wing rule (no less than 25cm). I have the oversized rule from the last trip.
- \* The dial calipers are stuffed. You need to buy or borrow a "pair" of good quality vernier calipers
- \* I have sent fax today to Jeremy Hogarth asking whether ABC tent still on island; where Argo keys are and how much fuel and water is a) at the trailer and b) on the island

DRAFT PROGRAM LAKE BALLARD JUNE 1995

Wed 7 June Morning

Andy Chapman + 2nd observer fly Lake Ballard. Telephone or fax Grant Pearson at Woodvale immediately after flight to confirm still chicks on lake.

Objectives (priorities highlighted)

- i) Are there still Banded Stilt (BaSt) on the Lake? If so, how many and in which part(s) of Lake?
- ii) **Are there still flightless chicks on the Lake?** If so how many and where?
- iii) **Is there any current nesting activity on the Lake?** If so, what is location of island(s) and approx number of nests?

Methodology

- \* Fly east-west transects of lake to find BaSt and any current nesting.
- \* Fly low over flocks to see if capable of flight or not.

Equipment

- \* Maps (1:250,000 ?) to record locations of BaSt, flightless chicks and current nesting islands.
- \* GPS (plane's?) to fix location of any current nesting islands
- \* 35 mm camera with Ektachrome 100 ASA (or Kodachrome 64 ASA) to photograph current nesting islands).

Extra

Cassette recorder

128.  
129.  
133.  
(25)
- \* Fly one transect of Lake Marmion on way back to Kalgoorlie to check for nesting and/or chicks. Record appropriate info.

#### Thurs 8 June

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

#### Fri 9 June

##### Morning

Gp, ACI and ACh drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and establish camp on Camp Island. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure depth; take water sample(s).

##### Afternoon

Measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island

Precisely measure (in order to precisely determine area) the boundaries of the nesting area of 1st breeding island).

If time permits, start collecting family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (details below)

#### Sat 10 June

##### Morning

Collect family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (continue until 5 family parties collected).

##### Afternoon

Banding and flagging of chicks.

#### Sun 11 June

Banding and flagging of chicks.

ACh needs to be back in Kalgoorlie on Sun night. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake in the afternoon.



127.  
123.  
122.

(3)

Mon 12 June and Tues 13 June

Banding and flagging of chicks.

Wed 14 June

Again measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island (same procedure as Fri afternoon).

Return to Perth

Examiner take notes depth

### Collecting Methodology:

- \* AC1 in one punt and GP & ACh in other.
- \* choose **solitary** family parties with **single** adults.
- \* ACh shoot the adult, gather chicks and dispatch (ACh technique).
- \* attach waterproof label to each bird and label "Adult (1-5)" and "Chick (1a, 1b etc, 2a, 2b etc to 5a, 5b etc)".
- \* weigh each bird.
- \* record "completeness" of breast band and black belly of adults.
- \* record presence/absence of brood patches (bare skin) on either side of sternum.
- \* dissect out (scissors & tweezers) oesophagus and gizzard (incl proventriculus) of each bird and store separately in 70% alcohol with label (Adult 1, Chick 1a etc **plus date**).
- \* while GP & ACh do the above, AC1 to measure water depth, take water samples, do standard invert sweeps (as on last trip).
- \* keep bodies (take back to camp at end of day and that night **sex and measure gonad size of the adults** and measure bill, head+bill, metatarsus & wing of adults and chicks).
- \* bury bodies.
- \* carefully replace alcohol (except dregs) after 24 hrs or so. Replace again one week later.
- \* Andy Chapman has one tyre from trailer in Kal (was flat, now fixed).
- \* Also ask Andy whereabouts of 2nd outboard and any other gear ABC may have left with him.
- \* 10' punt from Bsn is **hungless**.

← **add Date!**

**Odds + socks.**

### Banding and Flagging Methodology

- \* when find chicks, have GP, AC1 & ACh in 12' punt towing 10' punt.

126  
122  
121

- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
- \* Initially at least, ACl driver, GP catcher and **bander/flagger**, ACh flagger
- \* **band on right tibia** (i.e. above "knee") and **flag on left tibia** every chick.
- \* note that the bands are difficult to close properly and patience is required.
- \* to apply flags, hold flag open, slip onto tibia, apply glue to both surfaces, hold together for 1 minute (timed).
- \* note that flag surfaces to be glued **must** be clean and dry and **must not** move at all while being held together.
- \* remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate "wings" with knife)
- \* ACl & ACh can advise on the most efficient *methods.*
- \* If you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only.
- \* record band numbers used each day *+ number ~~also~~ flagged each day.*

### Nesting Colony Methodology

If you find one and can readily get to it on the ground (one visit will suffice):

- \* measure (or pace) the nesting area so its area ( $m^2$ ) can be determined.
- \* visually assess stage(s) of development of colony (laying, incubating, hatching).
- \* photograph island and nesting area.
- \* sample dominant plant species.
- \* in unlikely event hatching is underway and chicks are being led off the island, record the number of chicks & adults reaching the water in a sample (50-100 will suffice) of family parties. Repeat at 1-2 day intervals if not time consuming (the other work is more important than repeats).

### OTHER TASKS

- \* make notes of any predator/scavenger activity you see.
- \* record other waterbirds seen on Lake Ballard.
- \* keep me informed (every day or two) of progress/findings (radio?).

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: G.P. URGENT: YES/NO

AT: WRC

Fax No. ....

FROM: J.L

DATE: 2/6

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

Re Bellerb — Draft

No. of pages inc. this page: 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

FAXED

(P)

Some urgent

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Extra

Concetta  
recorder.



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- (4)
- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
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**Article in WA Bird Notes (No.74, p.19 – June 1995 issue, author ‘Jim Lane’) headed ‘STOP PRESS Leg-flagged Banded Stilts’ inter alia stating ‘During the first week of May [1995], Alan Clarke, Andy Chapman and I leg-flagged 170 chicks at various stages of growth. The leg-flags are small, made of stiff yellow plastic and located above the left ‘knee’ (on the tibia)’. This article is a restructured and slightly reworded version of JL’s draft of 16/05/1995 (see below).**



Leaders: Jan and Rob Hill

O	A	M
S	A	N
S		J

## Monday 25 September Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm

Neil Hamilton is Section Keeper of Birds at the Perth Zoo and will talk about the Zoo's role in bird conservation, a role often performed in conjunction with other organisations such as government departments and other zoos.

## Monday 23 October Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm

Michael Craig, a former secretary of the WA Group, will help us with wader identification, a source of considerable difficulty to many, as migrant wader species, normally in WA in the summer, are then less distinctive.

## Monday 27 November Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm

Some time ago Gordon Tozer and others started a photographic group within the RAOH in Perth. Gordon, Peel Howdon and Mavis Norgard will show 15 slides apiece and Dusty Millar will display print photographs. In discussing their work, they will be giving helpful hints for beginners in bird photography.

## STOP PRESS Leg-flagged Banded Stilts

Tens of thousands of Banded Stilts have nested at Lake Ballard near Menzies during the past two months, following cyclonic rain in January. During the first week of May, Alan Clarke, Andy Chapman and I leg-flagged 170 chicks at various stages of growth. The leg-flags are small, made of stiff yellow plastic and located above the left "knee" (on the tibia).

The lake's water level is high and food supply (brine-shrimps) abundant so the majority of these chicks should survive to fledge and disperse to other wetlands.

Should you sight any of these leg-flagged stilts we would be most grateful if you could pass the details on to me at CALM's Busselton office (ph: 097-521677 or fax: 097-521432 or mail c/o Dept. of CALM, Queen Street, Busselton, 6280). Information we would like is location, date, number of "flagged" stilts seen, total number of stilts and any other information of possible interest. Include the name of the observer and a contact number or address.

Jim Lane

WABN #74 p 19.

June '95 issue (No 74, p 19)

"Washburne  
Bird Notes"

**FAL**  
**1995 SOUTH**  
**SPECTACULAR**  
Camping 1-15 Oct (15  
1st Nov (11days 10nights)  
**1996 AF**  
We continue our success  
to some of the finest in  
Nat. Park (the big five h  
We may miss the birds  
just opened). 20th Aug  
expensive than Zimba  
beautiful Drakensberg  
4th - 12th Sept \$1250  
(Perth, small reduction)  
**KIMBERLEY '96**  
Travel with someone w  
- Kunene 2 - 17 Jun  
21 - 29 June \$950 G  
1 Simon  
Perth, Western A

## STOP PRESS EN

Following what se  
a Night Parrot sighting  
Blyth and Phil Fuller o  
about 25 km south eas

Unfortunately, the  
southwestern species  
Goldfields, but presun  
following heavy rain  
least four birds and p  
not, it must be said, a  
Night Parrots would h

*Yvonne Costello*

not sent as calls for  
info to go to me - shall  
be to GSP  
call for info

-Copy of last years

Request still applies - potentially coming  
dry season

*J. Lane*

23/10/96

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Jim Lane

WABN #74 p 19.

final numbers

were 500 leg flagged and 800 banded.

23/10 '96 08:19

TX/RX NO.768

Should have said  
February  
23/02/2014