

Band-Related Correspondence with David Purchase (ABBS/CSIRO, Canberra)

Extracts from JL's hard copy file labelled 'Correspondence with David Purchase (Secretary, Australian Bird Banding Scheme, c/o CSIRO Canberra)' – 'Now only Corres. Re Pelicans'¹, regarding the following subjects:

- Band types and supplies (pages² 81-80, 78-76, 73-72, 70-69, 66-62, 60-54, 49-47, 43-29, 27-23, 21-7, 5-1).
- Band wear, corrosion & loss (194-193, 155, 101, 97, 93, 89, 78-76, 71, 55-54, 40-38, 36-34, 25, 13, 11, 7, 5-4).
- Double-banding (78, 71, 60, 55, 43-41).
- Strange 'foreign' bands on Australian Pelicans (182-178, 173-168).

The pages have not been separated according to subject. Instead, they remain in their original, reverse chronological, order (194-1, with gaps). It will be noted that many individual page numbers are listed under more than one of the first three of the above subject headings.

Note, in particular, the several different types of bands were used during the course of the pelican banding project and that the 'Species [Banding] Schedules' record, for each band type, the individual band numbers, where and when they were used, whether on 'pullus' (runner) or 'free-flying' (fledged) birds, and whether or not the bird was double-banded. A first look (19/10/12) at these Schedules indicates that only three different types were identified: 'Penguin flipper tags' (initial code 'P'), 'Old style pelican bands' (initial code 'O') and 'New style pelican bands' (initial code 'N'). JL currently (19/10/12) has leftover stocks of the two different styles of *pelican* band, namely 'aluminium butt-ended and aluminium lock-ended, plus a stock of stainless steel bands (bands 170-08901 to 09000, with only one band, 08981, missing). **So were S/S bands received by JL/GP but not used? Ask ABBBS.**

¹ See 'Pelicans - All Correspondence with DPurchase' RMCR for a digital copy of the complete contents of this file.

² These numbers refer to the hand-written numbers in the top right-hand corner of each page. They are the same page numbers as in the 'Pelicans - All Correspondence with DPurchase' RMCR referred to above.

194

CSIRO

Division of
Wildlife and Rangelands Research

A Division of the Institute of Biological Resources

P.O. Box 84, Lyneham, A.C.T., 2602, Australia
Telephone (062) 41 1211
Telegrams Wildlife, Canberra Telex 62284

DP:VH
Ref: QC/LAN/4

25 May, 1983

Mr. J. A. K. Lane,
Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter which I wrote to Peter Leeflang of the Zoological Gardens. I gather from my telephone conversation with him that he has had previous contact with you.

It occurs to me that marking the captive pelicans at the zoo may, in time, provide you with some supplementary information about the rate of wear of these bands if you are still interested in this subject. However, the rate of wear of bands on captive birds is unlikely to be the same as bands on wild birds.

In view of your interest in waders you will be pleased to know that my various contacts in China tell me that moves are underway towards the establishment there of a bird-banding organization. This is something which I have been pushing at every opportunity as I think China is an important area in the eastern palaeartic migration system. The development of banding studies on palaeartic waders in China will answer a lot of the questions being posed about the migrations of this group of birds.

I gather that you have recently returned from overseas. I hope that you had a productive and enjoyable trip to wherever you went.

Kindest regards,



(D. Purchase)

DP:VH
Ref: B4/2

26 May, 1983

Mr. Peter Leeftang,
Overseer,
Zoological Gardens,
20 Labouchere Road,
SOUTH PERTH. W.A. 6151.

Dear Peter,

As promised over telephone I have enclosed thirty bands (170-01731 to -01760) to fit Australian Pelicans. If required, I can supply a few more of these bands at a later date.

I'm sure that Jim Lane, as you suggested, would explain how these bands are applied.

Would you please ensure that these bands are placed only on captive birds.

Kindest regards,

(D. Purchase)

cc: J. A. K. Lane
for your information

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2802, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 41 1211 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA — TELEX: 62284

DP:EW

Ref: QC/LAN/4

7th November, 1978

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

Welcome home! I hope you had an enjoyable and productive visit to Europe.

I'm sorry that we have been bombarding your "in tray" with various communications during your absence. I doubt if any of them require urgent action - if they do, I will certainly send a reminder to you. Therefore, feel free to shove these communications to the bottom of the pile.

Other than to welcome you home, the reason for this letter is to send to you the enclosed copy of a letter which we received today from Glen Storr.

Could you contact Glen if you wish to examine the pelican.

We will send a Report to Bander to you for this bird later this week.

If you would like the band from this bird for weighing will you collect it from Glen. If you don't want the band, I will suggest that it stays on the specimen.

Kindest regards,



D. Purchase

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

24th October, 1977.

DP/JF
Ref: QC/LAN/4
B4/6

Mr. J.A.K. Lane,
W.A. Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065.

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter telling me of the meanderings of the carcass of 170-00927/28.

I have enclosed, for your information, a copy of the letter which we received from Mr. Stubbs who told us that the carcass was lying eight miles south of Goldsworthy. I have also enclosed a copy of a letter I wrote to Mr. Stubbs requesting that he mark on a map the site where he found the remains.

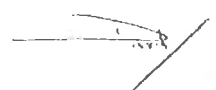
I hope that we are able to clarify the situation and allow the remains of 170-00927/28 to R.I.P. in the one place rather than have them perambulating over the entire Mt. Goldsworthy area.

Thank you for returning the pelican bands. The weight loss is slight, nevertheless I think we need to keep a careful watch on the wear of these bands. If it is found necessary to use a harder metal then the sooner this is found out the better. I am a little concerned about the wear on the trailing edge (i.e. the lock area) of bands 170-01171 and 170-00905. If the lock fails on these bands then they will probably quickly fall off the birds' legs. The wear on the leading edge of 170-01392 is also a matter for concern as wear in this area could result in the obliteration of the first half of the band number. It will be interesting to see the extent of wear on these bands when they have been on birds for two or three years.

I have enclosed the bands which Mr. Stubbs removed. They are no use for weighing as he has cut the ends off. However, you might like to look at them to see the wear on them.*

We will send the Report to Bander for 170-00927/28 to you when I have heard from Mr. Stubbs.

Yours sincerely,


D. Purchase.

* Please return them when you have seen them.

Mr D. Purchase
Bird Banding Scheme
C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Re your letter of 11th August and query concerning the number of birds Dr McKenzie wishes to sample. He did wish to sample 3 000 birds however I am sure that will prove to be a most difficult target to achieve in 12 months. Approval was finally given for him to collect 335 migratory waders from Peel Inlet (10 species).

Thank you for the advice on ectoparasite collection. I have passed it on to McKenzie's group.

Thanks for following up 170-01171's tags and bands. Regarding the wear on this band, we have now re-weighed all recovered bands and in general the weight loss appears to be slight. Fifteen of the twenty bands have weight losses of less than 1%. The five bands which have lost more than 1% are 01812 (1.1%), 00905 (4.1%), 01570 (4.8%), 01171 (3.5%), 01392 (2.3%). Elapsed times were 4, 11, 13, 14, and 15 months respectively. I am returning all bands to-day under separate cover.

Recently your office sent me a Triplicate Copy of a Recovery Report for 170-00927, 28. We recently received a report on this bird from a Mr McNamara of Goldsworthy. Copies of his report and of our letter in reply are attached for your information. Please note the three possible locations of this bird's carcass - 14 miles east of Mt Goldsworthy, 9 miles west, and 8 miles south (your report). I hope that between us we can clarify this point.

Regards.

JIM LANE

October 6, 1977.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:EW

Ref: QC/LAN/4

6th September, 1977

Mr. JAK Lane,
W.A. Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

We have now received a reply from R.K. and B.J. Reimers in regard to the number of bands which were on the Pelican which they found. Their reply simply states "There was only the one band on the leg". Although my query said "...a number of Pelicans had bands placed on both legs" their reply suggests that they only looked at one leg.

However, they returned the band and wing tag F4 (green) which was on the bird. There should, of course, have been two wing tags which makes me suspect that the Pelican may have been lying on its side and they only examined one leg and one wing.

The wing tag and the band are enclosed. Would you please return the band when you have examined it. ✓

There is a fair bit of wear on the front edge of the band. Could you please let me know what is the weight loss of this band compared with the others which we have sent to you. ✓

Kindest regards,

Wing Tag was ~~on~~ F4 (White on green)
Leg Band was 170-01171


D. Purchase

DP:EW
Ref: B4/6

4th August, 1977

Mrs. B.J. Reimers,
Pyramid Station,
Box 13,
ROEBOURNE, W.A. 6718

Dear Mrs. Reimers,

Thank you for your letter telling us of the banded Pelican which your husband found. The banding details of this bird and some information on the Australian Bird-Banding Scheme are enclosed.

As a test to see whether any of the bands were falling off, a number of Pelicans had bands placed on both legs. Could you tell me whether or not this bird had a band on its other leg? The bird should also have been wearing a green plastic tag (a double flap of material about 5" x 3 1/4") on its wing. Could you tell me whether this was present or not? We would also appreciate it if you would return the band (or bands) so that an examination for wear can be made. A stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed for your use.

Thank you again for your help and interest in this work by telling us about the Pelican.

Yours sincerely,

(D. Purchase)
SECRETARY
AUSTRALIAN BIRD-BANDING SCHEME

CSIRO

Jubilee Year 1926-1976

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 41 1211 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

PD:EW

Ref: QC/LAN/4

18th February, 1977

Mr. J.A.K. Lane,
 Western Australian Wildlife
 Research Centre,
 P.O. Box 51,
 WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of 11 February.

As mentioned in my last letter, we have 2000 pelican bands in stock, which should take care of your requirements for 1977. I will order an additional 1000 to be delivered with my main band shipment early next year.

As requested, 1000 of the 2000 pelican bands will be despatched to you during the next week.

Enclosed with this letter is an amended Report to Bander for bands 170-01333 and 170-01334. We received a reply to our letter to Chard and it appears that he found band 170-01333 on the remains of the same bird from which Stubbs removed band 170-01334. I have also enclosed a short note from Mr. M.W. Gillam, Wildlife Section, Forestry, Fisheries, Wildlife, Environment and National Parks Branch, Department of the Northern Territory, P.O. Box 1095, Alice Springs, in which he states that pelicans are dying of a "viral disease" in the area. You may or may not like to follow this up. I have also enclosed the band which he returned - he lost the other one.

Have you any publicity leaflets which you use in conjunction with your pelican work? If so, could you let me have about fifty so that they can be included with our replies to people who recover banded pelicans.

I was delighted to know that the wader-banding has picked up at Pelican Point and that you may be able to sneak in a wader-banding trip to Port Hedland or Shark Bay next summer.

I don't know how things are going with the wader-banding in Darwin. So far we have received schedules for the banding of two Common Sandpipers, one Broad-billed Sandpiper and one Curlew Sandpiper.

2/...

-2-

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Mr. Morant. I have not encountered this problem with the limited amount of Crested Tern banding which I have undertaken. Bill Lane, who I spoke to recently, has banded quite a few Crested Terns and has also not encountered the problem. I will send to you a copy of my letter to Morant.

I hope you don't mind, but I have sent to both David Robertson and to Bill Lane, copies of your letter to Morant. I have done this because of the valuable information which it contains on the way you handle your waders.

... Have you tried using wire shaped like an 'M' to support the lower shelf of your nets (see enclosed photo-copy)? It should help prevent birds from drowning.

Kindest regards,



D. Purchase

Mr D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Good to hear from you. I have gazed into crystal ball and come up with the following figures. During 1977 I would expect to use something like 1,500 bands, possibly as many as 2,000. During 1978 (with few, if any, birds being double-banded) I would expect to use about 1,000 bands.

Thanks for the photocopies of the Galah Dead Recovery Schedules. I shall fill in the pelican schedules accordingly. Bands will also be returned.

170-01333 and 01334 would certainly be off the same bird. I tape each pair of bands together before they are taken to the banding site. That way there is no possibility of bands of the wrong number combination being applied (i.e. 01332-33, 34-35, etc. instead of 10331-32, 33-34).

Thanks for the bands you sent me for weighing.

Wader banding has picked up at Pelican Point this season. So far we have banded 275 "migratorics", controlled 6 of these, and retrapped a further 15. The longest elapsed time since banding is 3 years 8 months for a Stint. Not too bad for 4 nights work (we are trapping on a regular monthly basis). For most birds trapped we are able to record weight and moult of remiges and rectrices.

Pleased to hear about the successes of the Newcastle/Sydney mob. I will have to extract the digit. You would think that they would catch at least one of my birds or vice versa wouldn't you?! Especially considering my two recoveries in Melbourne and New Zealand.

I am cutting down drastically on my field work during 1977/78 (except for Pelicans) so with any luck I may be able to sneak in a wader-banding trip to Port Hedland or Shark Bay sometime next summer. Here's hoping. Great to hear about the possibility of a Darwin group. I wonder whether Fred, Bill or I will catch any of them?

By the way, if you could send me 1,000 pelican bands by mid-April I would be grateful.

Regards.

JIM LANE.

February 11, 1977.

CSIRO

Jubilee Year 1926-1976

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 41 1211 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:BM
QC/LAN/4

27 January 1977

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife
Research Centre,
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065.

Dear Jim,

I'm sorry that I have been neglecting you of late.
This has been quite unintentional.

The situation as regards pelican bands is excellent.
I ordered 2000 last July and they were delivered by air a few weeks ago. Let us know if you want some. Could you gaze into your crystal ball and let me know roughly what your demand for bands will be for 1977 and for 1978. This will enable me to gain an idea of how many I should order this year.

No, I don't think it is really necessary for you to enter the name and address of the recoverer on the Dead Recovery Schedules. I have enclosed photo-copies of two of Ian Rowley's Dead Recovery Schedules for galahs which illustrate the way we would like them completed. We would appreciate it if you would also return the bands to us after you have weighed them. This gives us a positive check that the number has been reported correctly. You will be amazed how often a bird is recovered on more than one occasion due to numbers being incorrectly reported.

Thanks for returning the flipper bands which arrived last week.

So far we have received reports of the recovery of eight of the new pelican bands. Of these 170-00925 and 170-00926, and 170-01139 and 170-01140, were reported as being recovered on the same birds; and 170-01313, 170-01333, 170-01334, and 170-01369 were each reported as being on a different bird.

A problem is presented by 170-01333 and 170-01334 because you recorded these as being placed on the same bird. The finder of 170-01333 reported finding the band "... on a large bird, too decomposed to be recognisable on the 4th of September 1976... at Marie Pool, 25 miles south of Karratha...". The finder of 170-01334 reported finding the band on the 6th September (which he later corrected to 2nd August!) on a large black and white bird which had been dead at least three days and was found

"... about thirty miles south of Dampier..." (which he later said was "... three miles inland from the Great Northern Highway on the river bed of the Maitland River"!). It is possible that both are trying to describe the same site and the finder of 170-01334, if he did find the bird on 2nd August, overlooked the second band. If it is indeed the same bird and it was dead about three days on 2nd August, then it would certainly have been decomposed by 4th September. The description of the recovery site of 170-01333 is very vague, and I have written to the finder to see if he can mark the recovery site on a map which I have provided.

I have enclosed all of the bands with this letter except for 170-00925 and 170-00926 which were discarded by the finder. When you have finished with these bands, would you please return them to us. We can easily send them to you at a later date if you wish to see them again.

I have enclosed an amended Report to Bander for 170-01334 and Reports to Bander for 170-00925/00926 and 170-01139/01140.

I'm pleased to see that at least some waders have returned to Pelican Point and that you are managing to get among them.

The Newcastle/Sydney team have had two interesting recoveries recently. One was a Grey-tailed Tattler which was banded at Kooragang Island by Fred van Gessel on 27.4.74 and which was shot at Khatyrka River, Beringovskii, Magadan, USSR (62° 37'N., 174° 58'E) on 20.7.76. The other was a Red-necked Stint which was banded at Gamou, Sendai-shi, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan (38° 15'N., 141° 01'E.) and which was mist-netted at Stockton by Bill Lane on 22.10.76.

The Melbourne team have been fairly active of late and are getting a fair number of bands onto waders.

The latest news is that we might shortly have an amateur group banding waders in Darwin. They have already banded a few, but only time will tell whether they will persevere with it.

Kindest regards,


D. Purchase

Encl...

P.S. I received a telex this morning reporting the recovery of one of your pelicans in the Northern Territory. A copy of the telex is enclosed.

Mr D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

I hope you are still alive and well over there! I discovered to-day that I haven't heard from you since last August. Did you receive my letter of September 20th?

Thanks for the extra 100 pelican bands, they should see us through until March. What is the word on future supplies? Have you been able to obtain more from Ohman?

You will remember back in June '76 we agreed that I should contact the finders of wing tags and then supply you with the details on Dead Recovery Schedules. This morning while glancing through the "Instructions for the Completion of Recovery Schedules", I noticed that you require the name of the recoverer of each bird to be entered under "Footnotes". Do you require that information in this case?

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards.

JIM LANE

January 13, 1977.

*P.S. I have included to you today under separate cover a few
45 program flyer bands (Sand W^o 180: 06456-06500). The
labels are as requested for. If you like they, then
yes I will return them to you.*

Mr D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Do you think you could spare me a further 100 pelican bands? We have only 76 in stock and if we continue to capture pelicans at the present rate then I would expect to use all of these within the next 6-8 weeks. A further 100 bands would probably see us through until the beginning of the 1977 breeding season (about March/April).

I hope this is O.K.

Kind regards.



JIM LANE

November 15, 1976.

Mr D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

I received to-day your "Report to Bander" for band number 170-01334. Could you have the latitude and longitude rechecked please? I am sure the latitude is incorrect. Also, this was a double-banded bird. Did the finder make mention of the second band (number 170-01333)?

Thank you for your comments on the information contained in "Report to Finders". You are probably right when you say that the biggest threat would be from people who accidentally encounter a colony. We have had a number of signs made for the Mandurah colonies and are presently making enquiries about the cost and construction of cyclone proof signs for the north-west. I hope that these will help reduce disturbance levels. Under present circumstances full-time rangers are, of course, out of the question.

While on the subject of band returns, would it be possible for your staff to forward to me any bands which are sent in to your office. Each of the new pelican bands has been individually weighed to ± 0.005 gm and I would like to re-weigh all recovered bands so that we can determine the corrosion rate. If you prefer I could return the bands to you after re-weighing.

Kind regards.



JIM LANE

September 20, 1976.

CSIRO

Jubilee Year 1926-1976

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL.: 41 1211 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

17 August 1976

DP:BM
QC/LAN/4

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife
Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065.

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of 12th August. The flipper bands have not yet arrived, but I guess they will in due course.

The information given to a person who finds a banded bird is obtained from the Species Schedule. It is in fact the same as appears on the Report to Bander which is a carbon copy of the Report to Finder. - only the printed wording is different. Therefore the answer is yes, we do supply the finder with the exact location of the banding site.

However, do you think this is likely to pose a threat to the pelican breeding colonies? We only indicate where the birds were banded and at what age they were banded, we don't mention the existence of breeding colonies, although this could be suspected if the person receiving the report knew something of the biology of pelicans. Assuming a person has this knowledge he would then have to be sufficiently motivated to want to have a look at the colony. In many cases the colony would be a long way from where the bird was found. If it was found close to the colony (within, say 30 km) the person finding the bird probably already knows of the colony if he is at all interested.

Personally I don't think the fact that we tell the finder where the bird was banded would pose a threat to the pelican breeding colonies. The biggest threat probably comes from people who accidentally encounter the colony and then tell other people about its location.

This is a fact of life which cannot be prevented and one with which we must live. If a ranger cannot be stationed full time at these colonies during the breeding season (which would be a costly exercise) then I would consider placing notices around these colonies which tell people something about the biology of pelicans and how important it is to their conservation that they are not disturbed. You could also mention something about the work of your department. In other words, take the opportunity to educate the people who encounter these colonies, this approach has worked with the gannet colony at Cape Kidnappers in New Zealand.

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2.

I have enclosed a photo-copy of a Report to Finder so that you can see its format.

I have also enclosed a photo-copy of a Recovery Report which supplies the details of a Wandering Tattler banded in Japan which was recovered in Queensland. The details of the band were sent to me by a doctor in Ingham, Qld., who found the band in a bottle of tablets!

I recently sought a quote for the manufacture of a further 2000 pelican bands. The reply to this quote is enclosed. As you will see, Ohman will take six months to manufacture these bands. I have requested that an order be placed and that the bands be delivered by air-freight. These bands will cost about 9¢ each.

Kindest regards,



D. Purchase

Encl...

I. Ö. MEKANISKA

C. G. Öhman & Son

Postal address
P. O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD
Telephone
038 / 724 78
Bank
Svenska Handelsbanken



CSIRO
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602
Australien

Your ref: DP:AJC
Eder ref: B4/4

Our ref: EÖ
Vår ref:

Bankeryd, 1976-08-05
Sweden

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter dated 14th July 1976, we beg to submit you the following offer:

<u>Bird bands of alloyed aluminium</u>	Price 1.000/Swedish Crowns
2.000 pelicen bands, size 17	495:--
<u>Bird bands of stainless steel</u>	
6.000 shearwater bands, size 16	140:50

The prices stated: are ex works.

Performance: As per earlier orders.

Time of delivery: About six months after receipt of order.

Terms of payment: Net 30 days after the date of invoice.

Awaiting your valued order, we remain,

Sincerely Yours

Eric Öhman

Mr D. Purchase
Secretary
Australian Bird Banding Scheme
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

I have mailed to you to-day under separate cover 216 penguin flipper tags (Tag Nos. 180-06201 to 06400 and 06435 to 06450). I appear to have misplaced the remaining 50 tags which were issued to me. However, I doubt whether they have wandered too far. When they turn up I will send them on.

While on the subject of pelican banding, what is your policy on disclosing to the public the location of pelican breeding colonies? When you send banding details to John Citizen who found a pelican band do you disclose the exact location of the banding site? I am concerned that if knowledge of pelican colony locations becomes too widespread, colonies may, in the future, be harassed by curious locals and tourists. This applies particularly to the colonies of Shark Bay, Exmouth Gulf and Port Hedland, all of which can easily be approached by boat.

I will be interested to receive your comments on this problem.

Kind regards.

JIM LANE

August 12, 1976.

Mr. D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Just a quick note before I set off on a second trip to the Wittenoom Pelican Colony.

The new bands are quite satisfactory. They are easy to apply and seem to fit young birds well.

I have been unable to determine the location of Red Rock Pool. However, when I return from Wittenoom I will ask Lands Department to let me know where it is.

I haven't had time to fill in all the banding sheets for 1975/76 and will be unable to do so until early July. Hope this doesn't cause you too much inconvenience.

Regards.

JIM LANE

June 18, 1976.

CSIRO

Jubilee Year 1926-1976

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL.: 41 1211 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:BM
QC/LAN/4

15 June 1976

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
W.A. Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065.

Dear Jim,

Thanks for your letter of 28th May.

I was pleased to hear that your trip to the north-west pelican colonies was a success. How easy did you find the new bands to use and did they fit the birds alright?

Wim Vestjens placed some of these new bands on our captive pelicans and found them to be quite satisfactory. However, I would like your comments before I consider ordering any more.

From the time it is placed with him, it normally takes Ohman about three to four months to complete an order (depending on how many orders he has in hand from other banding organizations). To this must be added the time required to get a quote from him and the time required to have the bands transported from Sweden to Australia. If I can get bands from him in six months from the time I write to him for a quote I feel we have done fairly well.


I agree that the best way to handle the reports which you receive of the recovery of wing tags is for you to contact the finders. This is the way in which Ian Rowley handles the reports which he receives of the recovery of wing tags of Galahs. This is being practical not secessionist. However, we would like you to supply us with the details (on Dead Recovery Schedules) of any birds which are recovered dead and reported to you.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter which we received reporting the recovery of one of your pelicans. We are trying to establish, from Constable Ingliss, the location of Red Rock Pool. Have you any idea where it may be?

../2

It is a pity that Mr Slamet lost the band off the Red-necked Stint. As you say, I do like to get the band back if the recovery is of importance. However, the fact that I haven't got this band back from Mr Slamet doesn't worry me anywhere near as much as failure to have got the band back from the Red-necked Stint recovered on French Island would have. Red-necked Stints can be expected to move from Perth to North Java, but a movement from Perth to French Island seemed, at the time, unlikely.

Kindest regards,


D. Purchase

Encl...

Mr. D. Purchase,
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thanks for the extra 400 bands which you sent me. I have already used some of them.

On our recent trip to the north-west pelican colonies we managed to band 220 chicks, (all of which were double-banded) so we now have 356 bands remaining. If you don't think that any more bands will be forthcoming until September next year we had better defer any further double-banding until then.

I will be heading back to Wittenoom in about 3 weeks time for another go at that colony (we were too early for most chicks on the last visit) and expect to band a further 150 or so. That still leaves me with the Shark Bay and Little Rocky Islet (near Onslow) colonies to visit this year so bands are going to be in short supply by the end of the year I-fear.

Why do you think it will take Ohman six months to fill the next delivery? As he is tooled up for the job it shouldn't take that long surely! Or are you going by his previous track record?

In your letter of April 21, you raised the question of correspondence with wing-tag finders. I prefer the second alternative; that is for us to notify the finder of the banding details and to forward the recovery details to you for your records. That way we could perhaps form closer ties with potential "wing-tag sighters" than might be possible for you way over there in Canberra (sounds as though I'm an active secessionist doesn't it!).

It is a pity that Mr. Slamet lost the Stint ring. I suppose that you are always much happier about a recovery as significant as this when you actually sight the ring yourself.

Thanks for the note about "Parks". I will check with our librarian to see if we have received a copy.

Thanks also for the note about ornithosis. I know very little about the subject myself and wonder just how great a risk of disease we bird-banders are facing. If there is a significant risk then a well researched article in the Aust. Bird Bander explaining the types of diseases available, their symptoms and a few do's and don'ts for the bird-handlers would be a very good idea.

Regards.

JIM LANE

May 28, 1976.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA — TELEX: 62284

DP:BM

21 April 1976

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife
Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

As requested, a further 400 pelican bands have been sent to you under separate cover.

It is quite alright to reband your captive pelicans with the new bands. It is always useful to be able to test new bands on captive birds. We will be rebanding the captive pelicans at Gungahlin with the new bands the next time Wim Vestjens catches the birds.

I think you should hang onto the old-style pelican bands for use in an emergency. However, I would like the penguin flipper bands returned, at your convenience, just in case someone wants to band Macaroni Penguins on Macquarie Island.

Thank you for the information on the wing tags. I hope they prove suitable. I wondered why I didn't see the reference to these in "Wildlife Research : Problems, Programs and Progress, 1969". I have since found why - Resource Publications next 94 and 95 were not received by our library.

As your address is included on the wing tags, finders are likely to inform you of recoveries. Therefore we must decide on how we are going to handle these. There are two possible ways:

1. you forward the finder's letter to me and I notify the finder of the banding details in the normal way; or
2. you notify the finder of the banding details and forward the recovery details (on a Dead Recovery Schedule) to me for our records.


.. /2

I don't mind in the least which way it is done. The important thing is to avoid the confusion which will arise, especially for the finder, if we both contact him.

I'm pleased to see you have been able to get an article on your wader work prepared by the Australian Information Service for distribution to local papers in Asia and New Zealand. This sort of publicity can only do good. I have a go at it myself every so often.

Last year our Central Communication Unit prepared an article asking people to send to me the bird-bands which had been "...lying forgotten around the house...". This article was then circulated to suburban and country newspapers. The result was that about eight pigeon rings, three budgerygah rings and one parrot ring were sent to me - to my knowledge not a single CSIRO band was returned in response to this article. One of the pigeon rings had been in the possession of the finder (who thought it was off a seabird) for about twenty years and one kind lady sent in a band which had "... been in my possession for approximately thirty five years, take a year or two" - it was a budgerygah ring dated 1933 which she had removed from off "... the skeleton of a parrot like bird ...". Although no CSIRO bands were returned it was a gratifying response in that it suggested to me that few, if any, CSIRO bands are "lying forgotten" around the houses of people likely to return the bands in the first place. There are undoubtedly many bands in the possession of people who couldn't care less about returning bands, regardless of what is written on them unless they are offered a substantial reward, which of course we will not do. However, I hope the article on your wader work brings to light some CSIRO bands. Your Red-necked Stint and Knot are still the only overseas recoveries we have had of waders in recent years.

kindest regards,


D. Purchase

Mr. D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thanks for the new style pelican bands; they appear to be quite satisfactory. Do you think you could send me a further 400 fairly soon please? We will be setting off for the colonies of Port Hedland, Wittenoom and Exmouth in about 3 weeks time (5th May) and I would like to have plenty of bands in hand. With reasonable luck I should be able to band 300 or more chicks on this trip. The Port Hedland colony alone already has some 600 pairs of nesting adults on it.

Would it be O.K. for me to re-band our captive pelicans with band no's. 170-00901 to 00904? Also, do you wish me to return the old-style pelican and penguin bands or should I keep them for the time being for use in emergencies?

I have finally settled upon a wing-tag suitable for Australian Pelicans and one of these is enclosed, complete with rivets. The size, shape, fabric and method of attachment are all based upon a tag which has been used for some years on White Pelicans in the United States. (Copies of correspondence concerning White Pelican tag design and use are enclosed). The only alterations which I have made are to use a locally-available material (Topspan Tir) and to increase the size of the tag by 2 mm all round. Tags will be attached with "Knobby Rivets" as in the U.S. study. Every bird will carry two identical tags (one on each wing). A different colour will be used for each colony, the first 3 colours (for Port Hedland, Wittenoom and Exmouth) being green, red and blue. Each pair of tags will be individually coded with a letter - number combination as shown on the sample tag. "SEND FISHERIES WILDLIFE PERTH" will be stencilled on the underside of every tag (we are still waiting on the stencil). The ink used is _____, which although difficult to apply, forms a chemical bond with the tag material and should therefore be fairly resistant to fade and abrasion.

If there is anything further that you wish to know about the tags or tagging operations please let me know.

I am pleased to hear that the cannon plan which I sent you was of some use. By all means send a copy to anyone you think may be interested.

In your letter of March 24, you asked me whether waders had ever abandoned Pelican Point as a roosting area in previous years. We have no knowledge of its use prior to the 1972/73 season. However, since that time, waders have roosted there by the hundreds every

cont'd...

2/...

year until 1975/76. Now nothing. I have my fingers crossed for next summer.

It was most exciting to hear about the Knot recovery in New Zealand. Especially when you consider that I have only banded 27 birds of that species. If only Stint had the same recovery rate!

As you say, it would appear from my dead recoveries so far that a significant if not large proportion of our waders may not be faithful to the same wintering area each year. Of the 4 dead recoveries which I have had (excluding the Great Knot at Augusta), only one has been in W.A., the other three being Indonesia, Victoria and New Zealand. That would certainly suggest a wide winter scattering of birds.

By the way, the Perth office of the Australian Information Service has prepared an article on my wader-banding activities for distribution to embassies in Asia and New Zealand and thence to local newspapers. The article stresses the importance of bands being returned to Canberra so perhaps we may have further recoveries from our northern and eastern neighbours (or should it be "eastern and western" neighbours?).

Regards.

JIM LANE.

April 14, 1976.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA — TELEX: 62284

DP:BM
QC/LAN/4

24 March 1976

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letters of 2nd and 8th March.

I agree with you that the first 500 or so chicks should be double-banded and the situation should be reviewed when that position has been reached.

A number of people have double-banded birds in the Australian Bird-Banding Scheme but, with the exception of Max Waterman who double-banded a thousand nestling Pied Cormorants, no one has done it as part of a serious study into the rate of band loss. The Pied Cormorants banded by Max Waterman received a stainless steel band and a aluminium band. The point of this exercise was to try and establish how many lost their aluminium bands - the assumption was made that the stainless steel band would not be lost. The results of this have not been analysed, but I think they will be inconclusive as too few birds were double-banded as the results, unlike your study, depend on how many of these birds are recovered by members of the public.

The total on the green "Despatch/Acknowledgement of Schedules" form which you submitted with your last Pelican schedules was changed from 117 to 115 as your total of 117 included two birds which received replacement bands, i.e. they were birds which had been banded previously.


What a coincident that a member of your staff could tell you the location of Cirebon Beach. As yet I haven't received a reply to my letter to Mr Slamet.

I was very disappointed to learn that waders no longer roost in large numbers at Pelican Point. Have waders ever abandoned the area in previous years?

../2

Thank you for the copy of the plan of the cannons which you use. They do indeed look simple to construct. I have sent a copy to Don Tulloch of our Darwin laboratory who is planning to use a cannon net to capture Pied Geese.

Kindest regards,


D. Purchase

49.



MEKANISKA

C. G. Öhman & Son



With the Compliments
of
The Secretary
Australian Bird-Banding Scheme
Division of Wildlife Research
Commonwealth Scientific and
Industrial Research
Organization

C.S.I.R.O.,
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T.
2602 Australia

s/114/GÖ

Bankeřyd 1976-03-04
Sweden

Jim Things are moving

P.O. Box 84
Lyneham, Canberra
A.C.T. 2602
Australia

[Handwritten signature]

will find an outturn sample of the bands for

have your comments to this shape before we
ing. The tools are ready, but can be altered
as you want to. After the manufacturing there are no
possibilities for changing.

We ask you to inform if you can accept the present shape and
dimensions. If you agree you can send a telegram.

We are understanding you situation but we want to be sure that
you get usable bands at the first time.

With kind regards

[Handwritten signature]
Carl G. Öhman

Enclosure: sample

L. Ö. MEKANISKA

C. G. Öhman & Son

Postal address
P. O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD
Telephone
036 / 724 76
Bank
Svenska Handelsbanken



C.S.I.R.O.,
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T.
2602 Australia

Your ref.: B4/4
Eder ref.: DP:AJC

Our ref.: 75/114/GÖ
Vår ref.:

Bankeryd 1976-03-04
Sweden

Dear Mr. Purchase,

Enclosed you will find an outturn sample of the bands for Australian Pelican.

We prefer to have your comments to this shape before we start the manufacturing. The tools are ready, but can be altered easily if you want so. After the manufacturing there are no possibilities for changing.

We ask you to inform if you can accept the present shape and dimensions. If you agree you can send a telegram.

We are understanding you situation but we want to be sure that you get usable bands at the first time.

With kind regards

Carl G. Öhman
Carl G. Öhman

Enclosure: sample

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

C.S.I.R.O. 200

OUTWARD TELEPRINT/PRINTERGRAM

TELEX MES

WLR AA62284
PGM A CBA 015

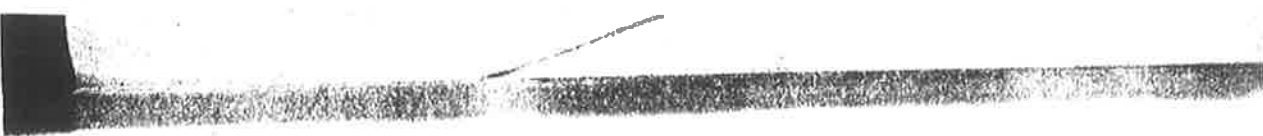
C G OHMAN
PO BOX 98
BANKERYD SWEEDEN

PELICAN BAND EXCELLENT STOP PROCEED WITH MANUFACTURE THANKS

PURCHASE
WILDLIFE CANBERRA

PGM A CBA 015
WLR AA62284 QTM 15.00 8.2.76 RNP

MESSAGE TELE



XXXX WILDLIFE

Mr. D. Purchase
Australian Bird-Banding Scheme
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thank you for your comments on double-banding pelicans. I do hope my proposal did not cause you too much alarm. I wasn't too sure what your reaction to double-banding would be so I really just threw in the raw idea for you to chew on. I accept your suggestion to double-band only the first 500 or so chicks. Let us agree then to review the situation when that position has been reached.

I must admit that a shortage of bands was one aspect I hadn't considered. If you can supply me with 800 bands fairly soon then I will double-band during the coming breeding season and next season. I will either single or double-band depending upon how many bands we have left.

I am sorry I didn't discuss all this with you before you put in the order for the new bands, however at that time I really hadn't given the matter much thought. This makes me wonder whether anyone else in the Australian B-B Scheme has double-banded and, if so, the results he or she obtained.

David Nicholls sent me the bands. Serial numbers were 170-00612 to 170-00650 inclusive and 170-00652 to 170-00662 inclusive - a total of 50 bands. A note attached said that 170-00651 was missing.

One other point. The Pelican Banding Schedule which I sent you last month had a Total Banded figure of 117. When the original was returned to me this had been changed to 115. I am sure this is incorrect. Would you have it checked again please?

Sorry to cause you so many problems.

Regards.

JIM LANE

March 2, 1976.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX 62284

25th February, 1976.

HJF/JF
Ref: QC/LAN/4

Mr. J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research
Centre,
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065.

Dear Jim,

Thanks for the banding information of 170-00451 and the other schedules.

No, I hadn't realized that Lake Joondalup was so close to your office. Perhaps 170-00451 had heard the talk about new bands and was on his way to collect one! We will send to you a Report to Bander for this bird as soon as the details have been processed.

David Nicholls rang me last week to say that he would be sending some bands direct to you. When they arrive, could you please let me know what serial numbers are involved.

I agree with you that it would be desirable to double-band a number of the pelicans. However, I don't think that every bird you catch from now to the end of your study need necessarily be double-banded. I feel you should double-band only sufficient birds to give you a reliable answer as to the rate of band loss. I don't know how many this will be as it will depend on how many you recapture. I'm no statistician, but I would suggest that if you could recapture a hundred double-banded birds over a period of ten years you would have a pretty good answer to your question. Therefore, you would need to double-band only sufficient birds to provide you with a hundred recaptures. If your recapture rate is 20% then you would need to double-band only 500 birds. However, you should perhaps do this for both chicks and free-flying birds as the rate of band loss could be different in each case.

I'm not happy about undertaking needless double-banding as from the point of view of both the bird and public relations the fewer numbers of markers we place on an individual animal the better. It also simplifies the actual job of marking the animal and the subsequent record keeping. This will then reduce the chance of error.

Finally there is the question of the availability of bands. At present we have 1000 on order of which I feel fairly confident that you can have 800. I should keep the remaining 200 in reserve for use by other people (e.g. Wim Vestjens and David Nicholls) if required.

It would be unwise for me to order any more until we are satisfied that they at least look as if they will be suitable. How long this will be will depend on how many of the banded ones you can recapture. However, twelve months is probably not an unreasonable time to wait until we order further supplies. It will then, with luck, take only a further six months to get delivery of the bands. This means that the 800 bands which you should receive in the not too distant future may have to last you until about September 1977. If you are to double-band each bird you capture you will only be able to mark 400 individuals during this period. To me this doesn't seem sufficient for your needs. Perhaps we will have to try to reduce the period of twelve months during which we test the bands or you should reconsider whether or not at this stage you should double-band all the birds.

The next time I order pelican bands I will probably get 2000 (depending on how much money I have available) so that you have sufficient to double-band a larger number of birds. When I ordered the 1000 you had not told me you intended to double-band all the pelicans you capture.

Kindest regards,



(D. Purchase)

XXXXX WILDLIFE

Mr. D. Purchase
Australian Bird-Banding Scheme
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thanks for pressing Ohman about the pelican bands. I appreciate it greatly. Thanks also for contacting David Nicholls about the bands he is holding.

When we do start using Ohman's bands I wish to double-band every bird. This will enable us to determine (by retrapping with cannon-net) the rate of band loss. I'm sure you will agree that this is a most important aspect of survival studies which is often overlooked, much to the detriment of the studies concerned.

Band 170-00451 was placed on a runner at Gndaroo Island, Exmouth Gulf on 15.7.75. Banding schedules are enclosed. Please note that Gndaroo I. has only recently been given that official name, and is in fact the "un-named island" referred to on previous Exmouth banding schedules. (Bands. 170:00667, 00686-00691, 00851-00866, 00868-00871, 00873-00880).

Did you know that Lake Joondalup is about 1 km from our office? That pelican must have been the only dead bird north of Perth that hasn't been dumped on our front counter.

This year we plan to wing-tag and band at Exmouth and at North Turtle Island off Port Hedland. We may also tag and band at a newly discovered colony near Wittenoom. However, breeding at this colony apparently occurs only after exceptionally wet years so we may not get an opportunity for some time.

The tags we have on our captive birds appear very successful both in terms of conspicuousness and method of attachment. As soon as we have settled on the final size and shape I will let you have all the particulars.

Kind regards.

JIM LANE.

February 17, 1976.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

AC/LAN/4

DP:AJC

13 February 1976

Mr J.A.K. Lane
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of 6 February.

I feel somewhat embarrassed about the pelican bands. The most annoying thing about the situation is that I can't seem to do a damn thing to expedite their delivery. Nevertheless, I have written yet another letter to Ohman (copy enclosed). I have also written to David Nicholls to see if he can let me have some bands back (copy enclosed).

I was sorry to learn that the flipper bands are corroding. I guess this is not altogether suprising. They do not appear to corrode to any great extent on Royal Penguins (for which they were designed) but this would be due to the fact that Royal Penguins spend their time in much cooler waters than do Australian Pelicans.

We have received a report of the recovery of band 170-00451 from off a dead Pelican which was found at Lake Joondalup on the northern outskirts of Perth on 8 February. As yet we haven't been sent the banding details of this bird - could you let us have them please.

I greatly appreciated your views on the methods which should be used to capture waders in Victoria. As I see it there are two main problems about the use of a cannon net in Victoria - the first is the cost of the equipment and the second is getting a trained team together to operate the cannon net. As I think I told you when you were in Canberra, this Division has been trying to convince the (then) Department of Environment that money should be made available to the Australian Bird-Banding Scheme so that it can provide equipment (including cannon nets) to suitable groups of people so that they could band the migratory waders which are contained on the Annex to the Migratory Birds Treaty. Had this quest for money succeeded we would have been able to buy a cannon net for use in Victoria. Getting a team together to operate the net is something the Victorian banders would have had to do themselves. Quite frankly, I don't think they would have found it easy.

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Although I have had no experience with the use of a cannon net for catching waders, I feel the team should consist of at least 10 trained people. It is interesting to note that Clive Minton talks in terms of 20 people to extract 500 birds. As you will see from the copy of a letter from Bill Lane which I have enclosed, they had a team of about ten when they caught the 430 waders at Newcastle, even so it took them 4½ hours to handle the birds. The team of ten at Newcastle may not have been altogether experienced, but with Bill Lane running the operation they would have certainly been organized. (As you have now gone out with Bill, I think you will appreciate that they would have indeed been organized! Bill is the only person I know who tackles bird-banding like a military campaign). Reading Clive Minton's letter I think the main trouble was in the way they tackled the problem.

I'm pleased you enjoyed your stay in the eastern states. We certainly enjoyed having you over here.

Kindest regards



D. PURCHASE

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

PO BOX 94 SYDNEY CANBERRA ACT 2602 AUSTRALIA TELEPHONE 66 71 21 TELEFAX 66 2984 ELECTRONIC MAIL: CSIRO@MAILS.CSIRO.AU

B4/4
DP:AJC

13 February 1976

Mr G.C. Ohman,
1 O. Mekaniska
P.O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD. SWEDEN

Dear Mr Ohman,

I wonder if you could let me know, as soon as you possibly can, when we might expect delivery of the 1000 size 17 bands (for the Australian Pelican). We are getting extremely worried by the fact that these bands have not yet arrived. The temporary band which we have been using on Australian Pelicans is beginning to corrode very badly and we are starting to lose a lot of valuable data.

I regret having to bother you again with this so soon after your letter of 7 January, but the situation is now getting desperate.

Kindest regards

D. PURCHASE

XXXX WILDLIFE

Mr. D. Purchase
Australian Bird Banding Scheme
Division of Wildlife Research
C.S.I.R.O.
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thanks for your copy of Clive Minton's letter on handling cannon netted waders and for Carl Ohman's reply about the pelican bands.

I do hope Carl can provide those bands fairly soon. The monel penguin flipper bands appear to be hopeless. Recently we retrapped two pelicans which had been banded 10 months previously and found that the bands were almost illegible due to heavy corrosion. It makes me wonder how long they last on penguins! I will send them over as soon as Tom Riggert has finished looking at them.

Thanks also for the time which you spent chatting with me while I was in Canberra. I found it most informative and I certainly enjoyed those relaxed few days in your office.

As you know, I went to Newcastle from Canberra and spent a weekend trapping and banding with Fred van Gessell and Bill Lane (plus a few others). Unfortunately, the weather was inclement and although we managed two nights of mist-netting, the cannon-net attempt had to be abandoned due to consistent heavy rain. Nevertheless, I was able to gain quite a few ideas from Fred and was greatly impressed by the Hunter River wader situation.

The south-east coast of Australia really is ideal for cannon-netting waders. The tides are regular and predictable. There is always a high tide during daylight hours, and the waders are faithful to their high-tide roosts. If I were to move to the east I would give away mist-netting completely and concentrate solely on cannon-netting along the lines of the Wash Water Group. With a small team and the right equipment you really could handle an awful lot of birds in a season.

I am very much tempted to have a go at cannon-netting at Shark Bay as conditions there appear to be somewhat similar to those of the east. Unfortunately, I can't really afford

cont'd...

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the time this year. However, we shall see!

No doubt you sent Fred a copy of Clive Minton's letter. I think the problem boils down to the fact that cannon-netting is a job for a well organized, well-prepared team. Perhaps 4-5 people would do, but they certainly have to work as a team and they need to have the right equipment. I feel that until Fred is able to get such a group together he is likely to continue to have mortality problems. Of course, it is still "early days".

While I was in Melbourne I spent a very pleasant afternoon and evening chatting with Pauline Reilly about waders and penguins. I also joined David Robertson on a one-night mist-netting attempt at the Altona saltworks. That was a bit of a disaster. We didn't catch a single bird and when most of the nets were blown down by a fresh breeze at midnight we decided to give it away. Frankly, I think Dave is wasting his time at Altona. Certainly there are thousands of waders there during the day. However, at night they all fly off to destinations as yet unknown. If I were Dave I would forget about mist nets and try cannon-netting. Richard Leyn's paper on the birds of Westernport Bay lists all the known roosting sites and I'm sure that one weekend every month or so spent cannon-netting at the bay would be quite enjoyable. Of course, cannon-nets aren't cheap and perhaps I am aiming a little too high. Still, I do believe that given the good conditions for cannon-netting which exist in Victoria, mist-netting there is a waste of time and effort.

Unfortunately, I didn't get to meet Gerry Klapste although I heard plenty about him. It certainly sounded as though personality clashes were involved however, not having met him, I won't enter into that debate.

The five weeks I had in Melbourne were very relaxed and I really was sad to have to return to Perth. However, I have arrived back at work feeling quite refreshed and enthusiastic about the next 18 months which will (I hope) culminate with 2½ months in England. My itinerary so far includes the Wash, Morecambe Bay and the ~~Y. M. C. A.~~ I'm sure that it will swell to fill in 10 weeks by the time I get there.

Thanks once again for your time in Canberra. It was certainly a pleasure to meet you after 3 years of correspondence with the unknown.

Kind regards,

(JIM LANE.

February 6, 1976.



EKANISKA

G. Ohman & Son



With the Compliments
of
The Secretary
Australian Bird-Banding Scheme
Division of Wildlife Research
Commonwealth Scientific and
Industrial Research
Organization

Mr D. Purchase
CSIRO, Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602
Australien

Bankeryd - 1976-01-07
Sweden

Copy for your information

air / 12/1/76

P.O. Box 84
Lyneham, Canberra
A.C.T. 2602
Australia

that I have not until to-day answered to your letter. Same being due to the fact that I prefer size 16. However we had the bands ready as usual by new bands. They will be despatched.

For (for the Australian pelican) I can not promise. We will do our best to have them ready.

the problem is that many works with tools have been neglected during my absence from the work. It will be the next tool after the present, which is new small figure stamps.

Dependent to too many crashed small figure stamps we could not make the bands size 5 from your order of May 27th at the same time as the main part. That size will be sent by air mail at our cost as soon they are ready.

After my heart-attack I was back in work medio October and I have learned to take things more easy than before.

And thank you very much for your kind letter with wishes for a quick recovery, which reached me in the summer. I can assure you that encouraged me at a bad time.

With the best wishes for the New Year from us all

Sincerely Yours

G. Ohman
G. Ohman

4/11/76

I. Ö. MEKANISKA

C. G. Ohman & Son



Postal address
P. O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD

Telephone
036 / 724 76

Bank
Svenska Handelsbanken

Mr D. Purchase
CSIRO, Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602
Australien

Your ref.:
Eder ref.:

Our ref.: GÖ
Vår ref.:

Bankeryd 1976-01-07
Sweden

Dear Mr. Purchase,

I beg you kindly to excuse that I have not until to-day answered to your letter, dated 17th of December. Same being due to the fact that I prefer to wait for the ready bands, size 16. However we had the bands ready yesterdays after some trouble as usual by new bands. They will be despatch by air mail to morrow.

Pelican Bands

Concerning the bands size 17 (for the Australian pelican) I can not promise the exact time of deliver. We will do our best to have them ready. But the problem is that many works with tools have been neglected during my absence from the work. It will be the next tool after the present, with its new small figure stamps.

Dependent to too many crashed small figure stamps we could not make the bands size 5 from your order of May 27th at the same time as the main part. That size will be sent by air mail at our cost as soon they are ready.

After my heart-attack I was back in work medio October and I have learned to take things more easy than before.

And thank you very much for your kind letter with wishes for a quick recovery, which reached me in the summer. I can assure you that encouraged me at a bad time.

With the best wishes for the New Year from us all

Sincerely Yours

Carl G. Ohman
Carl G. Ohman

DP:MR
B4/4

17 December 1975

Mr C.G. Ohman,
1 O. Mekaniska,
P.O. Box 98,
S 560 23 BARNKERYD
SWEDEN

Dear Mr Ohman,

I hope you are now fully recovered from your heart-attack and are feeling none the worse for you experience.

Could you please let me know when we might expect delivery of:

- 1) The 1000 size 17 bands (for the Australian Pelican). These were ordered in March and were originally to be delivered in April. However delivery of these were delayed by your absence from work.
- 2) The 6000 size 16 bands (for Schearwaters). These were ordered in June and were to be delivered by 1 December.

Kindest regards,

(D. Purchase)
SECRETARY
AUSTRALIAN BIRD-BANDING SCHEME

Copy to: Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

For your information,

D. Purchase

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA TELEPHONE 48 7122 TELEX 62284 TELEGRAMS WILDLIFE CANBERRA

DP:MR
B4/4

17 December 1975

Mr G.G. Ohman,
1 O. Mekaniska,
P.O. Box 98,
S 560 23 BARNKERYD
SWEDEN

Dear Mr Ohman,

I hope you are now fully recovered from your heart-attack and are feeling none the worse for you experience.

Could you please let me know when we might expect delivery of:

- 1) The 1000 size 17 bands (for the Australian Pelican). These were ordered in March and were originally to be delivered in April. However delivery of these were delayed by your absence from work.
- 2) The 6000 size 16 bands (for Schearwaters). These were ordered in June and were to be delivered by 1 December.

Kindest regards,

(D. Purchase)
SECRETARY
AUSTRALIAN BIRD-BANDING SCHEME

Copy to: Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO, W.A. 6065

For your information,

D. Purchase

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL. 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:POL

6 November 1975

Mr. J.A.K. Lane,
Western Aust. Wildlife Research Centre,
P. O. Box 51,
WANNEROO: W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

It is quite alright to band the two young pelicans which you are holding at the Research Centre.

I have still not had any word from Sweden as regards the new pelican bands. I might shortly do a little stirring.

Kindest regards,

(D. PURCHASE)

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 49 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:MR

7 July 1975

Ref : QC/LAN/4

Mr J. A. K. Lane,
Western Australian Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51,
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of 24th June. I'm glad you are not too despondent about the lack of the new pelican bands.

We have cut, filed and shaped 198 of the old type of pelican bands and have sent them to you by air-freight (ANSETT). You should have received them by now.

I hope it won't be too much longer before we receive the new pelican bands. However, I would suspect that Eric Ohman will not make the tools for these bands until his father returns to work.

Kindest regards,

D. Purchase
D. PURCHASE

XXXXX WILDLIFE

Mr. D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thankyou for your letter of June 13, 1975, concerning the delay in manufacture of pelican bands.

It is unfortunate that the new bands will not be ready for the Exmouth trip, however these things do happen.

Would you please send me the 200 size 17 bands you have in stock. Perhaps we will have more recoveries from Bunbury fishermen.

Kind regards,

JIM LANE.

June 24, 1975.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

13th June, 1975

DP:ZH
Ref:QC/LAN/4

Mr. J.A.K. Lane
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter which I received from Eric Ohman. As you will see, his father has had a heart-attack and this will delay the delivery of the pelican bands.

I'm terribly sorry about this, both from the point of view of Eric and his father, who have been a tremendous help to us, and from the point of view of your work. I really thought we had the problem of pelican bands well and truly beat this time.

However, we must treat the problem philosophically and realize Ohman's problems are greater than ours. At least we still have a supply of several thousand size 18 bands (the flipper bands which you have used) plus 200 of the old type of size 17 bands (the pelican bands which get pulled off by fishing nets) to keep us going until Eric Ohman can make the tools for the new type of pelican band.

Please let me know which of the two types of band you would prefer and how many, and we will get them across to you.

Kindest regards,

P. Taylor
for (D. Purchase)

I. Ö. MEKANISKA

C. G. Ohman & Son



Postal address
P. O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD
Telephone
036 / 724 78
Bank
Svenska Handelsbanken

Mr. D. Purchase
CSIRO
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602
Australia

Your ref.: DP:MT
Edor ref.: B4/4

Our ref.: 58
Vår ref.: 58

Bankeryd, 1975-06-04
Sweden

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your order, which is confirmed in separate letter. Also I make the quote you request, and if you place your order soon, I think we can hold the time of delivery.

About the delivery of the Pelican bands, I have bad news for you. We can not deliver them before October. This is due to the fact that my father has had a heart-attack, and is not expected to be back in work before September.

I have no time to manufacture new tools in this difficult situation. with the hope that you understand our problems, I remain,

Yours Sincerely
E. Ohman
Eric Ohman

XXXXX WILDLIFE

Mr. D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thank you for pushing ahead so rapidly with the new pelican bands.

The tentative date for my next banding trip to Exmouth is 9th June, although this, of course, may be altered slightly depending on when nesting begins. Hopefully, I will be banding at colonies further north in July and August so even if the new bands don't arrive in time for Exmouth I would like to receive them as soon as possible.

On the 5th February we banded 103 of the 130 (approx.) pelican chicks produced at Nirimba Cay this summer. Little, if any, chick mortality resulted so I am fairly pleased with the success of our banding methods.

At the moment we are in the throes of building aviaries at the Research Centre. We hope to have them completed by June so that they can house a few pelican pulli from Exmouth. I will then be able to try out the patagial tags we have made. Should they prove satisfactory, I would like to wing-tag a few chicks on Peel Inlet next summer.

I will contact Ian Rowley about attaching a return address to the tags as you have suggested.

I would certainly like to visit Melbourne, Sydney and Newcastle as well as Canberra this year. October or November would probably be the best time of the year as then I would be able to see your eastern states banders in action. I will pursue this matter further at a later date.

Kind regards.

JAKL
J.A.K.LANE
Research Officer.

March 11, 1975.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 45 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA — TELEX: 62284

DP:BB

Ref:QC/LAN/4

5th March, 1975.

Mr. J. A. K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
Department of Fisheries and Fauna
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

I have enclosed a copy of the quote which I received from Carl Ohman for the pelican bands.

The price (Sw.Crs.487.50) is high (each band will cost about 8.5 cents excluding the cost of the address stamp) but is still cheaper than we are likely to get them made for elsewhere. In fact I think they are a bargain.

In view of the urgency we will get them air-freighted to Australia. With a little luck we should have a supply for your winter banding at Exmouth Gulf.

Kindest regards,


D. Purchase

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:ZH
Ref:QC/LAN/4

10th February, 1975

Mr. J.A.K. Lane
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre
Department of Fisheries and Fauna
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter which I sent to Ohman regarding the pelican bands.

As you will see, I have reduced the internal measurements all round by .5 mm. If my arithmetic is correct, this is equivalent to reducing the length of a flipper band by about $\frac{1}{8}$ ". I feel that there is a risk of the band being too tight on some individuals if we make it any more.

If you go ahead with your plans to use wing tags, which seems a most sensible idea, I would suggest that you put a return address on the backs of the tags. Ian Rowley is doing this with his Galahs and it has brought to light a few more recoveries. Some people apparently only notice the tags. As a return address Ian is using that of our laboratories at Helena Valley. In your case I would suggest you use that of the Wildlife Research Centre or the Department of Fisheries and Fauna. It might be worth giving Ian Rowley a ring and ask him how he is attaching the return address to the tags.

Should you place a return address on the tags I would appreciate knowing the full recovery details of any pelicans which are reported to you.

If you write to the people who find these pelicans please let me know, otherwise we will also write to them. This could then lead to confusion in the finders mind. It is better if they had communication with just one person.

If you are to visit Canberra this year may I suggest you also try to visit Sydney, Newcastle, and Melbourne. There are people actively banding waders in these centres and I'm sure contact with these people would prove most valuable to you and to them. It would seem a pity to come this far and not do this. I may even decide to travel up to Sydney and Newcastle with you.

I would ofcourse be delighted to see you in Canberra.

Kindest regards,

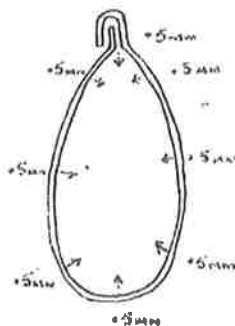
[Signature]
for (D. Purchase)

CSIRO

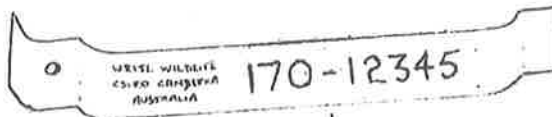
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

a) Reduce the internal measurements all round by about 5 mm.



b) Make the part of the lock which contains the protrusion a little shorter.



c) Address and numbers Please ensure that the serial number is at one end of the band.



[Handwritten signature]
72-75

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:ZH
Ref:B4/4

7th February, 1975

Mr. Carl G. Ohman
1 0 Mekaniska
P.O. Box 98
S - 560 23 BANKERYD SWEDEN

Dear Mr. Ohman,

Thank you very much for the sample pelican bands.

We have tried these on some captive pelicans and with the exception of the following two points they look to be ideal.

- a) The band would be a better fit if the internal measurements are reduced all round by about .5 mm. See (a) on the enclosed sketch.
- b) The lock in some of the sample bands did not close properly - the protrusion didn't align with the hole. This problem may not arise when you mass-produce these bands. However, it could perhaps be overcome by making the part of the lock which contains the protrusion a little shorter. This would allow it to be moved up or down so that the protrusion can be aligned with the hole. See (b) on the enclosed sketch.

The numbering of these bands will be 170-00901 through to 01900. We would like the numbers to be as large as possible (about 7 mm high).

The return address is to be:
WRITE WILDLIFE
CSIRO CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA

I have illustrated, (c) on the enclosed sketch, how we would like the numbers and address placed on the band. You might like to comment on this. However, I would like the serial number to be at one end of the band.

As we now need these bands urgently - my original request for samples was made four months ago - and I feel fairly confident that with the two modifications listed above (a and b) they will prove satisfactory, I will not bother about testing them for three months on captive pelicans. Therefore, could you please send a quote for the manufacture of 1,000 of these bands to:

The Chief
Division of Wildlife Research
CSIRO
P.O. Box 84
LYNEHAM A.C.T. 2602 Australia

2.

As we will not now be testing these bands for three months on captive pelicans I feel it wise to get only 1000 just in case experience shows we have to adjust the specifications.

Enclosed with this letter are some more stamps for your son's collection.

I have sent to you, by surface mail, a copy of the programme and abstracts of the 16th International Ornithological Congress. You might find these of interest. It was a pity you were unable to attend, but as you said in a letter to me in September 1970 "it is a long way to Canberra". Nevertheless, it was a most successful Congress and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

I'm sorry to have to send you such a long letter in English. I hope you can understand it alright. I only wish I could write and read Swedish as well as you can write and read English.

Kindest regards,

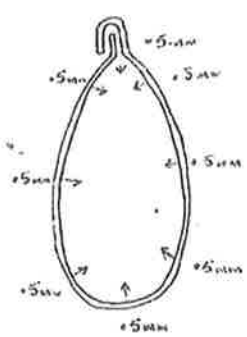
(D. Purchase)

CSIRO

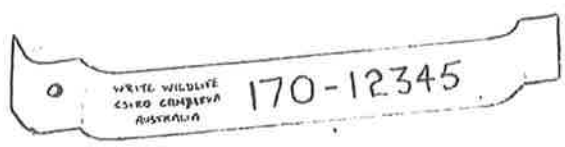
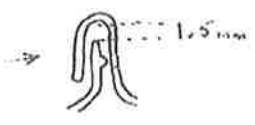
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 94, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

a) Reduce the internal measurements all round by about 0.5 mm.



b) Make the part of the lock which contains the protrusion a little shorter.



c) Address and numbers. Please ensure that the serial number is at one end of the band.



[Handwritten signature]
7.2.75

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:BT
Ref:QC/LAN/4

30th January, 1975.

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6056

Dear Jim,

At long last we have received samples of the new pelican band which I designed last year. One has been sent to you under separate cover.

Could you please have a look at it and let me know what you think about it. I would like your opinion as soon as possible.

We will try one out on a captive pelican to see how well it fits. All being well I will go ahead and order some to this pattern. I would have preferred to have tested three or four of them on captive pelicans for two or three months to ensure there were no problems. However, providing they fit adult birds alright (there is no reason why they shouldn't as they have the same inside measurement as the old size 17 band) then there should not be any problems.

The reason for the rush is that I would like to try and get these bands in time for you to use them this year.

Kindest regards,

✓
OK'd by J. Kleglone

[Handwritten signature]

D. Purchase

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:BT
Ref:QC/LAN/4

23rd January, 1975.

Mr J.A.K. Lane,
Wildlife Research Centre,
Box 51,
WANNEROO W.A. 6056

Dear Jim,

Two dyes which are cheap and readily obtainable from chemist shops are gentian violet and methylene blue. These would probably be quite suitable for the temporary marking of pelican chicks. They would be good choices as they are also both antiseptics and can be used to pour over the cuts and scratches which you may get during banding operations.

As the marking is only very temporary there is no need to complete an "application to colour-mark" form.

By now you would have received the Reports to Bander for bands 170-00674 and 170-00691 which were found in fishing nets at Leschenault Estuary. We have a third one, 170-00669, which was also found in a fishing net at the same site. This has not yet been sent to you as we are trying to get a recovery date for the band.

Although I feel that they can be accepted as movement records, it is nonetheless disappointing that the bands have obviously been pulled off the birds' legs. We simply must find a satisfactory band. I have still not heard from Carl Ohman to say that he can, or cannot make the type of band I proposed in October last year. Ohman produces a nice band at a reasonable price, but he can be damn slow in answering letters.

However, there is a silver-lining to each cloud and if it wasn't for the fact that these bands were pulled off the birds by the net, I doubt whether we would have known of these movements. On the other hand, if the bands hadn't come off, the birds might have drowned in the nets, which is something I would not like to have seen happen.

Kindest regards,



D. Purchase

P.S. Methylene blue can also be obtained from aquarium suppliers - it is used as a mild disinfectant for aquariums.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL. 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA; TELEX: 42284

DP:ZH
Ref:

10th January, 1975

Mr. Carl G. Öhman
1.0 Mekaniska
P.O. Box 98
S- 560 23 BANKERYD SWEDEN

Dear Mr. Öhman,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter which I sent to you on 11th October. Would you be able to let me have a quote for the manufacture of bands to these specifications.

We are very anxious to get these bands as they will be required for use next June.

Kindest regards,

(D. Purchase)

Copy to: Mr. J.A.K. Lane
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre
Dept. of Fisheries and Fauna
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, AUSTRALIA

(D. Purchase)

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA - TEL: 48 7 122 - TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA - TELEX: 62284

DP:BB

Ref: QC/LAN/4

11th October, 1974.

Mr. J.A.K. Lane,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO. W.A. 6065

Dear Jim;

Thank you for your helpful letter of 4th October. I showed it to Wim Vestjens and he feels that his technique is not much different to yours and that the birds were probably about the same age. He suggests that the reason for the mortality was possibly that the whole colony, which was only a small one, may have been under stress. Certainly the two which died were noticeably underweight.

One bit of bad news - the flipper band has fallen off the captive Pelican.

I have given some more thought to the vexing problem of a suitable band for Pelicans and feel we should try an aluminium (or possibly a light gauge stainless steel) band with a locking device at the rear. I will write to the manufacturers and see whether they can make such a band for us. Enclosed is a copy of a sketch I have prepared showing such a band. I will ask the manufacturer to make up some samples first so that we can test them for a few months on our captive Pelicans. This won't give us the full answer on their wearing qualities, but at least it will tell us if they fit satisfactorily.

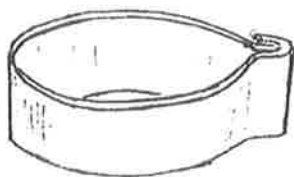
I have enclosed a brief summary of the Pelican banding to date together with details of all the recoveries.

Kindest regards,

D. Purchase.

PELICAN BAND

①



15 mm

Metal 1.5 mm thick
hard aluminium?

②



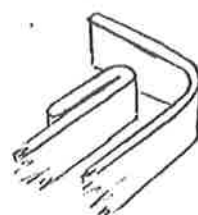
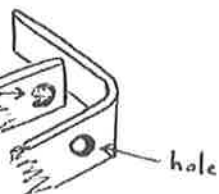
← Plan of band (gull size)

③



To be delivered open
in this shape

④ Two other possible ways of locking the band



SIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA — TELEX: 62284

DP:BB

Ref: B4/4

11th October, 1974.

Mr. Carl G. Öhman,
I. Ö. Mekaniska,
P.O. Box 98
S-560 23 BANKERYD. SWEDEN.

Dear Mr. Ohman,

I have enclosed drawings of what I think may prove to be a suitable design for a band for the Australian Pelican. Would it be possible for you to manufacture such a band? If it is, would you let me know roughly how much 5,000 and 10,000 of these bands would cost. Also, would you be able to let me have four sample bands so that we can test them on captive pelicans.

If you can manufacture such a band, I would like to test the four sample bands on the captive birds for about three months before placing an order for 5,000 or 10,000 bands.

The attached drawings show (1) a sketch of what the band should look like; (2) a full-sized plan of the band (i.e. the internal diameter and shape shown in the plan are those which we require in the actual band); (3) a plan of how we would like the band delivered (i.e. opened); and (4) two other possible ways of locking the band which might prove more secure than a simple over-lap.

I would suggest that a 1.5 mm gauge hard aluminium or perhaps a light-gauge (0.7 mm?) stainless steel might be a suitable metal. However, as usual I would appreciate your advice on the choice of metal and gauge. I would of course appreciate any other comments you may care to offer. We would like the band to be about 15 mm high.

Under separate cover, by surface mail, I have sent to you a copy of the latest report of the Division of Wildlife Research which you might find of interest.

kindest regards,

COPY FOR INFORMATION TO:

Mr. J.A.K. Lane
Western Australian Wildlife
Research Centre,
Department of Fisheries and Fauna
P O Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

D. Purchase.

The Secretary,
 Australian Bird-Banding Scheme,
 C.S.I.R.O.
 Division of Wildlife Research,
 P.O. Box 84,
 LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of the 13th September, in which you raised the question of banding activities causing heavy chick mortality in pelican colonies. During the past 12 months, I have banded 17 pelicans on Peel Inlet, 35 at Exmouth Gulf, 50 at Port Hedland and 99 at Camballin. It was not possible to revisit the Exmouth Gulf and Port Hedland colonies due to access difficulties. However, colonies at Peel Inlet and Camballin were both checked for mortality after banding. The Peel Inlet colony was checked at weekly intervals for approximately two months after banding. Only 2 of a total of 55 chicks died subsequent to banding, and neither of these was a banded bird.

The Camballin colony (approximately 1,000 chicks) was checked from a distance (with binoculars) the day after banding - no mortality was apparent.

I have tried to minimise the effects of my banding activities by avoiding days of extreme weather (heat waves or cold spells) by choosing the mildest time of the day (e.g. early morning at Camballin), and by restricting each visit to no more than 40 minutes. If there is a large proportion of naked or very young chicks then I do not attempt to band the older chicks, I simply make another visit when these youngest chicks are old enough to band. I have found that chicks less than 5 weeks (approximately) of age are too small for penguin flipper bands. I therefore try to visit colonies when most of the chicks are 5 + weeks old. Perhaps Wim Vestjens has been visiting younger colonies.

By the way, some of the aluminium bands do stay on! Last week I had a look at a flock of 21 pelicans at Augusta. Seven of the birds were immature and two of these were wearing aluminium leg bands. Judging by the plumage development they were 2 of the 17 chicks I banded at Peel Inlet in January of this year.

Would it be possible to send me a brief summary of pelican banding to date in Australia? I would be particularly interested in the details of any recoveries there may have been.

Kindest regards,

J.A.K.

J.A.K. Lane
 Research Officer
 October 5, 1974

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CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DB:BT

Ref:QC/LAN/4

13th September, 1974

Mr J.A.K.Lane,
Department of Fisheries and Fauna,
Western Australian Wildlife Research Centre,
P.O. BOX 51,
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

Dear Jim,

I am glad the penguin flipper bands arrived safely and you found them to be satisfactory for use on your pelicans.

The answer to the problem might be to get a band similar to the aluminium band manufactured from stainless steel. However, I think it will prove a hard band to close. The South African Scheme uses such a band but it is extremely heavy and I would almost suspect that it would require a sledge hammer and anvil to close. We could perhaps use a thinner gauge stainless steel, but even so they would be stiff to close and difficult to butt. This would greatly slow down the rate of banding which would not be desirable in a pelican colony.

Last week I had a chat with Professor Mendelsohn from Tel Aviv University who has marked a few captive pelicans. Apparently he had trouble with the pelicans pulling the bands off and had to tie the butt ends together with wire.

At this stage the best thing to do is to let things slide for a while until I can have a look at the flipper band which was placed on one of the captive pelicans which we have on our ponds. The next time the birds are caught I will ask Wim Vestjens to hold the one wearing the flipper band to see how it looks.

If nothing else, we have sufficient of these bands to keep you going. Unfortunately they are made of monel and I am worried that they might not stand up to the warm saline waters of north-west Western Australia. However, they are made from an English monel which I feel might last longer than the American alloy. We will get a clue on this when the recoveries start coming into the Banding Office and we can examine the bands.

Have you encountered any problems with the young dying (presumably of shock) when you band them? Wim Vestjens gave up banding pelicans at the colony at Lake Cowell because of this problem. The young were about half-grown and in "creches". Of the six he banded three died and he gave it away. If you haven't encountered any problems could this be due possibly to you banding a different age group? Have you checked the colony on the following day to see if there has been any mortality?

Kindest regards,

D.Purchase.

Mr. D. Purchase
C.S.I.R.O.
Division of Wildlife Research
P.O.Box 84
LYNEHAM
A.C.T. 2602.

Dear David,

Thank you for your letters of June 18, and July 2.

The penguin flipper bands were quite satisfactory. As you say, they are easy to apply after a little practice. I would be quite happy with pelican bands of that design provided they are made from a metal alloy which is resistant to corrosion. Unfortunately, I doubt whether stainless steel, titanium or incoloy, would be suitable as these metals are too hard to bend easily. Perhaps you have some ideas or contacts in other banding organizations who might be able to help.


After our survey of pelican breeding colonies this year we decided that Exmouth Gulf and Camballin are the colonies most suitable for a banding programme and so next year we will be concentrating our efforts at these two localities.

I would estimate (roughly) that our requirements for the next five years will be 2,000 - 2,500 bands.

By the way, I presume the flipper bands you sent me were made of monel. Is that correct?

Thanks again for the trouble you took to provide me with bands at Kununurra. MacRobertson Miller Airlines were responsible (as usual) for the delay.

Kind regards.


(J. LANE).

August 21, 1974.

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:ZH

Ref: QC/LAN/4

2nd July, 1974

Mr. J.A.K. Lane
Department of Fisheries and Fauna
C/- Public Works Department Hostel
KUNUNURRA W.A. 6743

Dear Jim,

I have sent to you, with this letter, 500 unshaped penguin flipper bands. These were designed for use on Royal Penguins but have also proved suitable (although not ideal) for use on Pelicans. We have had them on captive birds on one of our ponds for some 18 months.

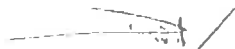
Enclosed with the bands are a pair of pliers (in case you haven't any suitable ones with you) and a band to show how the tongue must be fastened.

At first glance it might look a difficult task to fasten the tongue in the manner shown, but with a little practice it can be done very quickly. I have banded over 5000 Royal Penguins with these bands and found it no great difficulty to tuck in the end of the tongue. I have enclosed a sketch to show how it is done.

When you get back from the bush, could you please let me have your comments on my letter of 18th June and let me know (roughly) what your requirements for Pelican bands will be for the next four or five years.

Now that we have someone who is working on Pelicans I would like to obtain some decent bands which will stay on them.

Kindest regards,



(D. Purchase)

CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP:IWT
Ref. QC/LAN/4

18th June 1974

Mr. J.A.K.Lane
Wildlife Research Centre
Department of Fisheries and Fauna
P.O. Box 51
WANNEROO W.A. 6065


Dear Mr. Lane,

I hope you received the pelican bands alright.

We now have only ten of these bands left so I must consider getting some more manufactured. What I am proposing to do is to get them made to the same size and shape, but manufactured from 1 mm gauge stainless steel or incoloy instead of aluminium. Have you any comments or suggestions to offer?

The envelope which contained your request for the bands has, I think, solved a mystery. Early last month I received an identical envelope with the address typed with what appears to be the same typewriter. However, the envelope, (which is enclosed) contained absolutely nothing! Maybe you can tell me what should have been inside.

Kindest regards,


D. Purchase.

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SUB. ADD. ADDRESSEE ON ANOTHER NUMBER - TRY 911555 2-55P | SM.

PRC 284= MPC 192= VCAD199 =
CANBERRA ACT 22 1616

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108 ADELAIDE TCE
PERTH WA 6000

FISHFAUN
PERTH WA

TELEPHONED
To ~~855 988~~ 911555
Time 3pm
SM.

MT 8-30A-5P255988 - POST
AM HOLD

FOR J A K LANE

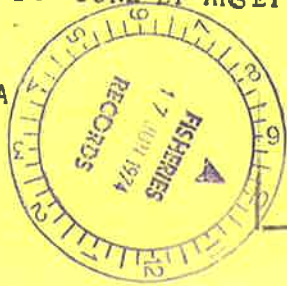
PELICAN BANDS WILL BE DESPATCHED 18 JUNE BY ANSETT AIR EXPRESS

REGARDS

PURCHASE WILDLIFE CANBERRA

(FISHFAUN J A K-18) 28

200/1



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CSIRO

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 84, LYNEHAM, A.C.T. 2602, AUSTRALIA — TEL.: 48 7122 — TELEGRAMS: WILDLIFE CANBERRA. TELEX: 62284

DP/MT

Ref: QC/LAN/4

October 25th 1973

Mr. J.A.K. Lane
 Department of Fisheries and Fauna
 108 Adelaide Terrace
PERTH W.A. 6000

Dear Mr. Lane,

Thank you for your letter in regard to the banding of Pelicans. A quantity of size 17 bands have been sent to you under separate cover. These consist of 27 which have been pre-bent and have black paint rubbed into the numbers and 30 flat bands (as they are normally supplied). The flat bands should be pre-bent before use, but before doing so 12 mm should be cut off one end. The black paint was rubbed into the numbers so that they could be read with the aid of binoculars.

These bands are not very satisfactory as some almost certainly fall off the birds. We have been trying to design a more suitable band with a locking device built into them. However, this presents problems in manufacture (which greatly increases the price) and also makes them difficult and slow to apply (which greatly increases the risk of mortality in the colony). Consequently we will probably settle for the same type of band made from 1 mm gauge stainless steel. The only difference being that they will be the correct size and pre-bent.

Yours sincerely,


 (D. Purchase)

P.S. I hope you received my telegram regarding the inculoy bands which arrived from England this afternoon (1 1/2 hours ago). 200 size 3 and 200 size 4 have already been sent to you by air-mail.

Secretary
Australian Bird Banding Scheme
C.S.I.R.O.,
P.O.Box 84
LYNEDHAM. A.C.T. 2602.

Dear Mr. Purchase,

I am presently studying the breeding success of a colony of Pelicans on Peel Islet, about 40 miles south of Perth and would like to use this opportunity to band juvenile pelicans. I would be most grateful, therefore, if you would send me 50 bands of a suitable size.

I will also be visiting breeding colonies of Cambridge Gulf and Sharks Bay within the next 12 months.

The wader season has started over here, of course, and to date I have banded small numbers of Red-necked Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, Grey Plover, Knot, Bar-tailed Godwit and Avocet.

Kind regards.

JAK

J.A.K.LANE
Research Officer.
Fauna Research Branch.

October 10, 1973.