

reported elsewhere in this issue, the inspection will be made later this month.

DUCK BANDING PROGRAMME

Results obtained from the duck banding programme were reviewed at a meeting of the sub-committee on bird-banding of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee held on July 31. Those present were Mr. A.J. Fraser (Chairman), Dr. D.L. Serventy (member) and H.B. Shugg, Secretary. Mr. B.K. Bowen (Research Officer) and Technical Officer J. Traynor also attended. Dr. Serventy said that the only obvious conclusion that could be drawn from the recoveries at that stage, was that the duck population of the South-West appeared to be an homogeneous one; although there was some suggestion of movement patterns and of more favoured migrational routes.

It was decided that in future operations in the metropolitan area, the sex and age of the ducks be recorded at the time of banding to allow a more intensive study, and that as many birds as possible would be banded before the commencement of the open season. A recommendation that the possibilities be investigated of establishing traps of a permanent, or semi-permanent, nature within the metropolitan area was adopted. The sub-committee further decided that Dr. Serventy and Mr. Bowen should confer with Mr. N. Stenhouse, a statistician of the C.S.I.R.O., on methods of assessing the information from recoveries to date. It also agreed that the results achieved and deductions drawn from the programme should be published as a technical paper.