

DUCK BAND RECOVERIES

During the month a further 6 bands were returned and in addition, details were obtained of a band sent in some time ago.

The table hereunder sets out the particulars associated with these recoveries. Band No. 3162 was only the second recovered from a pink-eared duck. In this case the bird was not killed - it was captured alive in moult, the band removed and the bird released.

Band No.	BANDING		RECOVERY		Distance Flown
	Date	Place	Date	Place	
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2922	25/10/54	Cockleshell Gully	26/12/56	On a pool 10M. S. of Eradu	90 miles
6583	12/2/57	Butler's Swamp, Claremont	21/5/57	Butler's Swamp (found dead)	--
6831	31/3/57	Karrinyup Lake	24/4/57	Road Lake, Mandurah	50 "
6568	11/2/57	do.	May '57	Butler's Swamp, Claremont, (found dead)	6 "
6720	20/3/57	Bennecke's Swamp, Kojonup District	April '57	Boscabel	7 "
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
3833	24/3/56	Wardering Lake	22/5/57	Trapped 65 mls N.E. of Lake Grace	140 "

Band No.	BANDING		RECOVERY		Distance Flown
	Date	Place	Date	Place	
			<u>Pink-eared Duck</u>		
3162	19/1/55	Yealering Lake	Captured alive 15/6/57	14 mls S.W. of Coorow	210 miles

#### ABROLHOS CRAYFISHERY

The catch at Houtman's Abrolhos continues to exceed production figures of past years. The table at page 114 compares the intensity and results of the fishing force in May last year with those this year. If conditions during the remainder of this season are usual, a record 3 million lb. catch may be expected.

#### WHITE-NECKED HERONS \*

All officers are invited to send in notes on observations of white-necked herons. Dr. D.L. Serventy, who is a member of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, has recorded information on the arrival and departure times and general behaviour pattern of these birds this year, as an irruption of this species is occurring in the South-West at the present time. He says that these irruptions occur periodically - the last was in 1952 - and that they are believed to be caused by unfavourable conditions further north where the bird is more common.

In appearance the white-necked heron, which is also known as the Pacific heron, is similar to the white-faced heron or blue crane, a widely known and popular bird to which it is closely related. The Pacific heron is a slate grey on the upper parts and has a long neck, white underneath, white on the breast and at the bend of the wings. It feeds on aquatic insects and other food obtained in some flooded paddocks.