

WILD DUCK LONGEVITY

In the last issue of this Bulletin we recorded that a grey teal carrying band 1380 had been shot at Moora. This bird was banded on February 14, 1953, and was taken on December 18, 1960, 94 months and 4 days after it was banded. Thinking that it might be an Australian record we got in touch with the only other banding authorities in Australia who have been working long enough to have had a comparable recovery. It now transpires that the Victorian Department of Fisheries and Wildlife holds the record. A grey teal banded by officers of that Department on May 8, 1952, was recovered on March 14, 1960. The Victorian bird therefore lived for 2,868 days after banding while our teal lived a mere 2,865!

On January 16, Mr. Orton, who recovered band 1380, shot another banded duck. This also was a grey teal which had been banded on July 5, 1957, at Beatrice Lagoon, Humpty-Doo Station, Northern Territory. This was the 37th grey teal banded in the Northern Territory to be recovered in this State.