

# Bird Banding Accomplishments 2014

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## **Abstract**

Through the cooperative efforts of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources biologists within the Bureaus of Wildlife Management, Natural Heritage Conservation, and Science Services, a total of 10,247 birds were banded in Wisconsin in 2014 under the DNR Master Permit. Thirteen species of migratory birds, including ducks, geese, loons, bald eagles, woodcock, mourning doves, and terns were banded at more than 180 sites across the state.

## **Background**

For over 55 years the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has organized extensive bird banding operations on state, federal, and private property at many locations across the state. Wildlife biologists and technicians within the bureaus of Wildlife Management, Natural Heritage Conservation, and Science Services cooperate to band birds to meet specific research needs and to meet banding quotas assigned by the Mississippi Flyway Council and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## **Methods**

Wild birds were captured using a variety of techniques including night-lighting, bait-trapping, drive trapping, mist-netting, and cannon-netting. Once the age and sex of the captured birds were determined, they were fitted with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aluminum leg bands. The band numbers, age, and sex of these birds along with date and banding location were recorded on field data sheets. Specially prepared banding schedules were submitted to the U.S. Geological Survey Bird Banding Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland for permanent storage. Permanent banding records were also stored at the DNR Science Operations Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

## **Results**

A total of 10,247 birds of 13 species were banded in 2014 at more than 180 locations in Wisconsin. For waterfowl, 4,466 resident Canada geese were banded at more than 69 sites, 3,062 mallard ducks were banded at 15 sites, and 1,392 wood ducks were banded at 14 sites (Table 1). Despite a late arriving spring, waterfowl banding was more successful than the 2013 banding season. In addition, 48 loons were banded at 18 sites, 59 woodcock were banded at 13 sites, 372 common terns were banded at 2 sites, 788 mourning doves were banded at 27 sites, and 34 eagles were banded at 11 sites (Table 1).

**Table 1. Banding Summary for 2014.**

**Age and Sex**

Species	Adult			Hatch Year			Local			Misc.*	Total
	F	M	U	F	M	U	F	M	U		
American Black Duck	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
American Green-winged Teal	4	4	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	12
American Woodcock	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	59
Bald Eagle	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	17	2	0	34
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Canada Goose	488	527	0	0	0	0	1,747	1,704	0	0	4,466
Common Loon	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	48
Common Tern	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	308	0	372
Mallard	382	299	0	1,145	1,128	0	55	53	0	0	3,062
Mourning Dove	71	219	73	0	5	418	0	0	0	2	788
Northern Pintail	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
Redhead	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Wood Duck	126	476	0	373	417	0	0	0	0	0	1,392
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1,556</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>1,774</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10,247</b>

\*Misc. includes unknown age and sex.