



The Katharine Ordway
Natural History Study Area

Box 216
Inver Grove Heights, Minn. 55075
(612) 455-6204

ORDWAY BULLETIN
No. 76

MACALESTER
COLLEGE

located at 9550 Inver Grove Trail (Dakota County Road 77), Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

BIRD-BANDING at ORDWAY (4)

:RE-CAPTURES, a Recapitulation.

In the six years from 1972 through 1977 the number of re-captured birds was 1109; that is to say that 1109 birds originally banded here were retaken at least one time. These represented 49 species.

As should be expected most of the recaptured were of the wintering species. A total of 12 species accounted for most of the recaptures, 884 in all, i.e. 80%. Three species accounted for almost half of the recaptures:

Slate-colored Junco	200 (18.0%)
Tree Sparrow	192 (17.3%)
Black-capped Chickadee	125 (11.3%)

The following birds made up the balance of the 80%:

Catbird (55)	Blue Jay (46)
Goldfinch (52)	Field Sparrow (32)
Lincoln's Sparrow (50)	Robin (30)
Song Sparrow (50)	White-breasted Nuthatch (27)
	Rose-breasted Grosbeak (25).

There was considerable variation from year-to-year. Although the trapping-sites remained the same and there was approximately the same amount of trapping-netting exposure, the total of recaptures for each year varied widely: from 274 in 1973 to 86 in 1977. The low figure for 1977 could be accounted for by the fact that it was a dry year and there was little snowfall to cover the available provender; thus the birds had greater feeding available to them than just at our banding-sites.

R J CHRISTMAN,
Naturalist
Katharine Ordway Natural
History Study Area.

17 April 1979
crc