

# RECOVERIES OF BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS BANDED IN SASKATCHEWAN

by **C. Stuart Houston**, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon

Early banding of Black-crowned Night Herons in Saskatchewan yielded a very high number of recoveries, compared to later banding. The late George H. Lang banded this species almost yearly from 1924 to 1939 at "Dry Lake", the easternmost of the two Strawberry Lakes south of Indian Head. His biggest years were 1925, when he banded 110; 1926, when he banded 149; and 1932 when he banded 138. Of the first 609 banded up to the end of 1932, there were 24 recoveries, a rate of 3.9%, but from the last 250 banded there was not a single recovery! My personal banding of 183 night herons with four recoveries, represents a recovery rate of 2.2%. Note

how the earlier recoveries include many birds shot, whereas in more recent years such non-game birds seem less likely to be shot illegally.

The oldest Saskatchewan bird was nearly nine years old when it was electrocuted and found hanging from a power pole.

It is of interest that in 1964, Bob Nero found Black-crowned Night Herons nesting between the two Strawberry Lakes. I banded 44 that year, but to date have had no recoveries from them. Mr. Lang's daughter reported that their colony was no longer present at "Dry Lake" in the early 1940's.

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(in the following table, 532-1040 means 53° 20' north and 104° 00' west)

**Banded by Judge J. A. M. Patrick at Foam Lake, Sask. (514-1033):**

Banded July 4/29. Shot hunting season/34 (5 yrs.) near Quinton, Sask. (512-1042).

Banded July 4/29. Shot Oct. 20/29 (direct) in Texas (273-0993).

**Banded by George H. Lang at Strawberry Lakes (502-1034):** (859 banded)

Banded June 18/24. Electric pole, May 8/33 (9 yrs.) 30 mi. N. Borger, Texas (360-1012).

Banded June 18/24. Shot Dec. 1/24 (direct) Hidalgo Co., Texas (26x-097x).

Banded June 18/24. Found dead early May/26 (2 yrs.) Dunseith, N.D. (484-1000).

Banded June 23/24. Injured Nov. 27/24 (direct) Deerfield, Florida (261-0800).

Banded July 4/24. Found dead mid-May/27 (3 yrs.) Oakes, N.D. (460-0980).

Banded July 4/24. Shot Sept. 21/24 (direct) Valley City, N.D. (465-0975).

Banded July 4/24. Shot Sept. 21/24 (direct) in state of Vera Cruz, Mexico.

Banded July 15/25. Found dead Oct. 11/25 (direct) Adair, Sask. (502-1031).

Banded July 15/25. Found dead Mar. 9/32 (7 yrs.) Edenwold, Sask. (503-1041).

Banded July 15/25. Found dead July/25 (direct) Francis, Sask. (500-1035).

Banded July 15/25. Found dead Oct. 16/32 (7 yrs.) Carman, Ill. (404-0910).

Banded July 15/25. Shot Oct. 30/25 (direct) Carroll Co., Ark. (36x-093x).

Banded June 12/26. Shot Sept. 15/28 (2 yrs.) Penzance, Sask. (510-1052).

Banded June 12/26. Shot early Oct./28 (2 yrs.) Calhoun, Georgia. (342-0845).

Banded June 12/26. Shot Oct. 19/26 (direct) Throckmorton, Texas (331-0991).

Banded June 26/26. Shot Oct. 8/26 (direct) St. Joseph, Missouri (394-0945).

Banded June 26/26. Shot Oct. 9/26 (direct) St. Joseph, Missouri (394-0945).

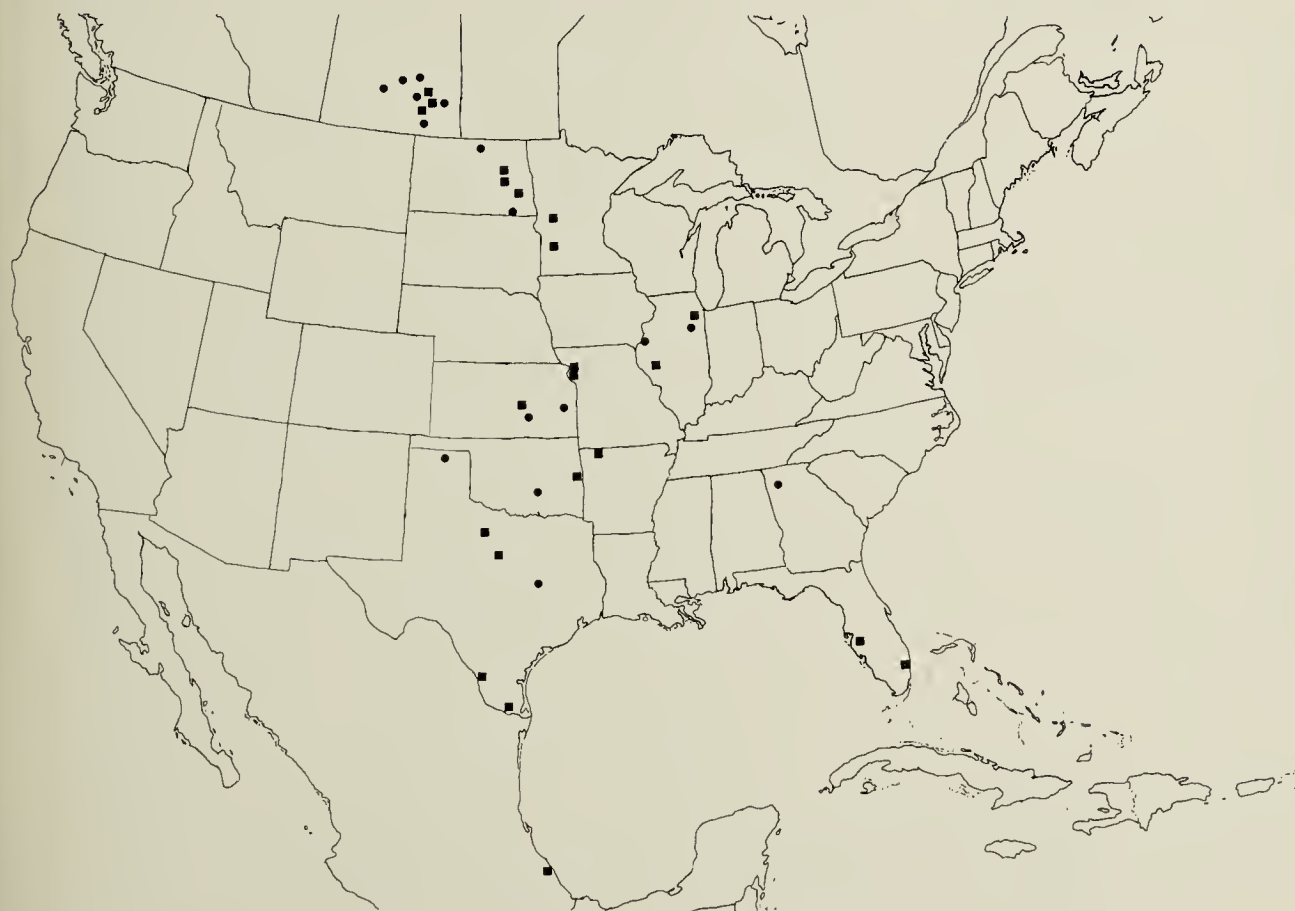
Banded June 26/26. Shot Nov. 1/26 (direct) Fort Smith, Okla. (352-0943).

Banded June 11/27. Found dead June 22/28 (1 yr.) Strawberry Lakes, Sask. (502-1034).

- anded June 24/28. Shot Oct. 7/28 (direct) Valley City, Ill. (394-0903).  
 anded June 24/28. Shot April 17/34 (6 yrs.) Central Butte, Sask. (504-1063).  
 anded June 23/29. Found dead Aug. 22/29 (direct). Ft. Qu'Appelle, Sask. (502-1034).  
 anded June 30/29. Shot Sept. 25/29 (direct) Warwick, N.D. (475-0984).  
 anded July 11/31. Trapped and released Oct. 8/31 (direct) McPherson, Kans. (382-0973).  
 anded July 11/31. Caught in fish net, Oct. 12/31 (direct) Eastland, Texas (322-0984).  
 anded July 9/32. Caught by fish hook, May 1/37 (5 yrs.) Marlin, Texas (311-0965).  
 anded July 9/32. Found dead Oct. 26/32 (direct) Montevideo, Minn. (445-0954).  
 anded July 9/32. Caught in trap Nov. 20/32 (direct) Romeo, Ill. (413-0880).  
 anded July 9/32. Found dead July/42 (10 yrs.) Weyburn, Sask. (493-1035).  
 anded July 9/32. Killed by auto Oct. 23/32 (direct) Sarasota, Florida (273-0821).  
 anded July 12/32. Found dead Oct. 13/32 (direct) Bordulac, N.D. (472-0985).  
 anded by C. Stuart Houston, Yorkton, Sask. (511-1023 and 510-1022) (183 banded):  
 anded June 18/44. Found dead before Sept. 16/52 (8 yrs.) Wichita, Kans. (375-0972).  
 anded July 2/44. Found dead Oct. 12/47 (3 yrs.) Welda, Kans. (381-0951).  
 anded July 25/46. Found dead Oct. 10/47 (1 yr.) Morris Ill. (412-0882).  
 anded June 9/55. Killed by oil before Oct. 18/56 (1 yr.) Asher, Okla. (345-0965).

anded by Fred G. Bard, at Davidson, Sask. (511-1055):

- anded July 6/36 Found dead Nov. 7/36 (direct) in Minnesota (455-0955).



Recoveries of Black-crowned Night Herons banded in Saskatchewan

Note: Squares represent direct recoveries (same year). Circles represent subsequent years.

# COOPERATIVE SPRING MIGRATION STUDY, 1967

Compiled by  
**MARY HOUSTON**  
 863 University Drive  
 Saskatoon.

Whistling Swan	DILKE J. B. Belcher	ERINFERRY Mrs. E. A. Dodd	ESK R. F. Klatt	INDIAN HEAD L. Scott, M. Skinner J. Willeth	KELVINGTON Steve Waycheshen	KENASTON P. Lawrence Beckie	QU'APPELLE VALLEY E. M. Callin	RAYMORE Wayne Harris	REGINA Regina N.H.S.	SASKATOON Saskatoon N.H.S.
Canada Goose	Mr 30	Ap 16	Ap 11	Mr 10	Ap 6	Ap 27	Ap 8	Ap 8	Ap 8	Ap 14
Mallard	Ap 12	Ap 22	Ap 17	Mr 29	Ap 24	Ap 10	Ap 11	Ap 11	Ap 8	Ap 22
Pintail	Ap 11	Ap 22	Ap 16	Ap 8	Ap 24	Ap 13	Ap 11	Ap 11	Ap 8	Ap 17
Marsh Hawk	Mr. 23	Ap 13	Mr 28	Mr 25	Ap 15	Mr 23	Mr 26	Ap 10	Mr 30	Ap 20
Killdeer	Ap 11	Ap 10	Ap 25	Ap 8	Ap 14	Ap 11	Mr 29	Ap 10	Mr 23	Ap 13
Common Snipe		My 16		My 9	My 1	My 12	Ap 12	Ap 18	Ap 24	Ap 22
Mourning Dove	My 20	Ap 18	My 6	Ap 7	Ap 18	Ap 27	Ap 16	Ap 22	Ap 17	Ap 21
Common Nighthawk		My 20		Jn 6	My 29		My 26	My 25	Jn 2	My 26
Ruby-throated Hummingbird				My 29	My 27		My 25	Jn 4		
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Ap. 21		Ap 12	Ap 16	Ap 17	Ap 24	Ap 18	Ap 11	Ap 11	Ap 21
Eastern Kingbird	My 22	Jn 10	My 28	My 21	My 23	My 24	My 23	My 24	My 17	My 18
Eastern Phoebe		Ap 26			Ap 26					

Barn Swallow	My 14	My 16	My 16	My 12	My 15	My 14	My 21	My 8	My 10	My 10
Purple Martin		My 12		My 21	My 16		My 24	Jn 3	My 9	My 27
Common Crow	Mr 21	Mr 27	Mr 21	Mr 21	Mr 23	Mr 25	Mr 19	Mr 21	Mr 21	Ap 17
House Wren		My 30	Jn 6	My 19	My 18		My 20	My 22	My 20	My 21
Catbird				Jn 2	My 23		My 24	My 25	My 23	My 26
Brown Thrasher	My 21	My 16	My 21	My 28	My 23	My 22	My 17	My 23	My 15	My 21
Red-eyed Vireo				My 27	My 25		My 28	Jn 4	My 27	Jn 2
Black-and-white Warbler		My 28		My 27			My 24	My 23	My 11	
Tennessee Warbler					My 22		My 23			My 22
Yellow Warbler	Jn 1			M 12	My 24	My 16	My 21	My 22	My 17	My 13
Myrtle Warbler		Ap 16		Ap 27	Ap 18	Ap 25	Ap 25		Ap 16	Ap 20
Blackpoll Warbler				My 27	My 26		My 27		My 12	My 22
Ovenbird					My 25		My 27		My 20	My 27
American Redstart					My 26	My 22	My 24		My 25	My 27
Bobolink	My 24			Jn 1	My 26		My 25			My 27
Red-winged Blackbird	Ap 5	My 16	Ap 27	Ap 9	Ap 17	Ap 11	Ap 10	Ap 7	Ap 7	Ap 17
Baltimore Oriole	My 23		My 26	My 20	My 23	My 23	My 12	My 24	My 16	My 22
Rose-breasted Grosbeak		My 25		My 27	My 21		My 27	My 21	My 16	My 21
American Goldfinch	My 30			My 21	My 27		My 23	My 24	My 22	My 23
Slate-colored Junco	Mr 26	Ap 8	Ap 11	Mr 24	Ap 1	Mr 27	Mr 23	Mr 15	Mr 23	Ap 8
Chipping Sparrow		My 16		My 12		My 16	My 5	Ap 19	My 13	My 9
White-crowned Sparrow		My 13		My 8		My 6	My 6	My 1	Ap 22	My 7
White-throated Sparrow	My 7	My 16		My 12	My 11	My 11	Ap 19	My 2	Ap 23	My 6

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Whistling Swan	SHEHO Wm. Niven	SKULL CREEK S. A. Mann	SOVEREIGN Mrs. Geo. Winny	SPIRIT LAKE Wm. Anaka, J. Gunn	STEEP CREEK Glen F. Love	TULLIS Mrs. E. C. Boon	WOLSELEY Donald Hayward	YELLOW CREEK Bohdan Pylpec		STETTLER, ALTA. Lloyd M. Lohr
	My 5	Mr 23	My 3	My 6	My 2	Ap 24	Ap 16	My 12	-----	Ap 25
Canada Goose	Mr 28	Mr 23	Ap 9	Mr 24	Ap 23	Ap 7	Ap 10	Ap 11	-----	Ap 9
Mallard	Ap 15	Mr 26	Ap 13	Ap 14	Ap 16	Ap 10	Ap 9	Ap 24	-----	Ap 12
Pintail	Ap 15	Mr 28	Ap 26	Ap 11	Ap 26	Ap 10	Ap 10	Ap 24	-----	Ap 17
Marsh Hawk	Ap 7	Mr 23	Ap 10	Ap 3	Ap 16	Mr 28	Mr. 25	Ap 7	-----	Mr 26
Killdeer	Ap 11	Mr 23	Ap 11	Ap 11	Ap 16		Ap 10	Ap 13	-----	Ap 7
Common Snipe	My 8	Ap 20		My 7				My 14	-----	My 5
Mourning Dove	Ap 26	Ap 25		Ap 14	Ap 10	My 21	My 2	Ap 16	-----	My 28
Common Nighthawk	My 26	Jn 21		Jn 1	Jn 4		My 31	Jn 5	-----	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Jn 5			My 23				My 28	-----	
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Ap 18	Ap 8	My 1	Ap 14	Ap 25		Ap 13	Ap 20	-----	Ap 30
Eastern Kingbird	My 22	My 19	My 26	My 23	M 24		My 23	My 25	-----	My 25
Eastern Phoebe	Ap 25			Ap 21				Ap 24	-----	

Barn Swallow	My 13	My 16	My 25	My 12	My 16	My 14	My 18	My 19
Purple Martin	My 12			My 18			My 14	My 7
Common Crow	Mr 23	Mr 23	Mr 24	Mr 22	Mr 11	Mr 21	Mr 20	Mr 23
House Wren	My 21	My 24		My 20			My 24	
Catbird	My 26			My 24	My 23	My 30	Jn 1	My 28
Brown Trasher	My 22	My 20	My 24	My 16		My 21	My 18	
Red-eyed Vireo	My 23	Jn 5		My 25			My 25	My 26
Black-and-White Warbler								
Tennessee Warbler	My 22			My 18			My 22	
Yellow Warbler	My 22	My 12	My 22	My 22	My 21		My 24	My 23
Myrtle Warbler	Ap 25	Ap 23	My 11	Ap 13	Ap 25	My 21	Ap 20	
Blackpoll Warbler							My 21	
Ovenbird		Jn 13		My 26				
American Redstart					My 25			
Bobolink	My 20	Jn 1		Jn 2				
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Rose-breasted Grosbeak	My 17			My 19	My 19		My 22	
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