



12-30-1947

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Recommended Citation

Tanner, Vasco M. (1947) "Gull banding at Utah Lake No.3," *Great Basin Naturalist*: Vol. 8 : No. 1 , Article 3.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/gbn/vol8/iss1/3>

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GULL BANDING AT UTAH LAKE No. 3⁽¹⁾

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This is the third and final report on the California Gull banding project started in June 1940 by this writer and continued for three consecutive years at Rock Island in Utah Lake. Young gulls were banded with colored celluloid and numbered aluminum bands. These bands were supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1940, 1000 gulls were banded, numbers 40-680001 to 681000; also 1000 in 1941 numbers 41-649001 to 650000; while in 1942 only 300 were banded, numbers, 42-609501 to 609800. Due to the war and high water conditions on Rock Island there was no banding done in 1943, but on July 8, 1944 we were able to visit the colony and place aluminum bands on 16 young gulls. An aluminum band with a red celluloid one was placed on the right leg, and on the left leg we placed a yellow band. The aluminum bands used at this time were some left over from 1942. The numbers are as follows: 42-609804; 609816; 609825; 609835; 609844; 609856; 609857; 609860; 609864; 609868; 609874; 609877; 609891; 609893; 609896; and 609899. To this date I have not had a report of any of the gulls banded in 1944.

The 1944 banding party consisted of Dr. L. D. Pfoutz, his young son Jimmy and Mr. Irwin Brimhall of Payson, Utah, Wilmer W. Tanner, V. Jordan Tanner and Vasco M. Tanner of Provo, Utah. The island was practically inundated by the high waters of the lake. As a result only a very small area was inhabited by the gulls. We estimated that about 150 pairs of gulls had nested here this summer. In previous years a few pairs of Caspian Tern had nested on the west central part of the island, but this year there was no Caspian Terns to be seen around the island. A large flock of Pelicans (60) were on the island (south end) when we put in, but soon moved out into the lake to the west. A dozen Forster Terns were observed on and flying about the island.

It will be seen from the above that from 1940 to 1944 there were 2316 California Gulls banded on Rock Island in Utah Lake. Returns from 96 banded birds have already been reported.⁽²⁾ The following are records not previously reported which have been received from the Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, D. C.

(1) Contribution No. 114

(2) Report No. 1 Great Basin Naturalist Vol. II No. 2, P. 98, 1941

Report No. 2 Great Basin Naturalist Vol. III No. 2, P. 55-57, 1942

Dates of Banding	Band No.	Date, Place and Collector
June 15, 1940	40-680927	Found dead Sept. 9-46 at Oakland & Francisco Bay, on San Leandro side, California, by J. H. Rickard, 1492 Orchard Ave., Oakland
June 15, 1940	40-680090	Died in June 1944 from trying to swallow a large fish head at San Leandro, Leslie Co., Calif., by Wr. Bear, 2336-17 Ave., Oakland 6, Calif.
June 15, 1940	40-680052	Collected about June 2, 1943 at Delta, Utah by John S. Clark, of Delta, Utah
June 17, 1941	41-649963	Found dead, January 27, 1946 at Oceanside, Cal. by R. Park, American Hotel Oceanside, Cal.
June 17, 1941	41-649281	Found dead August 23, 1943 at Belfair, Washington by Llewellyn L. Withereil, Star Rt. 2, Belfair, Washington
June 17, 1941	41-649584	Banded at Rock Island, Utah Lake, Utah 6-17-41. Found dead by Nat Loader, Pleasant Grove, Utah. Date of letter received July 16, 1947.
June 17, 1941	41-649650	Found dead at Long Beach, California on Feb. 26, 1944; by Mrs. H. R. Buckles, 1428 Cartagena St., Long Beach, California
June 17, 1941	41-649513	Found dead at Terminal Island, California Jan. 2, 1943 by A. W. Knudsen, 2171 Oregon Ave., Long Beach, Cal.
June 17, 1941	41-649735	Found sick, released Jan. 9, 1947 at U.S.C.G. Air Station, So. San Francisco, California by James Reno S. 1/c
June 17, 1941	41-649093	Found dead at Lake Quinault, Jefferson Co. mouth of Queets R. Wash. about August 15, 1941. Reported by Gordon D. Alcorn, Grays Harbor Junior College, Aberdeen, Washington
June 17, 1941	41-649101	Recovered April 27, 1942 at Puerto de Todos Santos, Baja, California, by Alvaro Lopez Pineda, Todos Santos, Baja, California
June 17, 1941	41-649320	Found injured July 8, 1942 at El Cerrito, Cal. by Dominic Foster, 505 Kear-

Dates of Banding	Band No.	Date, Place and Collector
		ney St., El Cerrito, California and Roy. C. Kappler, 214 Ramona Ave., El Cerrito, California
June 17, 1941	41-649726	Bird found on November 21, 1944 at Mc Loughlin Heights, Vancouver, Washington by Sgt. Larry Kelley, Mc-Loughlin Heights, Vancouver, Washington
June 17, 1941	41-649084	Found dead for 1 or 2 days September 24, 1944, 8 miles from the Dalles, Oregon, by J. C. Spackman, Rowena, Oregon
June 27, 1942	42-609592	Found with wing broken at Nyssa, Oregon on June 27, 1945, by D. Benedict, Nyssa, Oregon
June 27, 1942	42-609792	Shot near Farmington, Utah. Reported Jan. 6, 1943 by Cecil S. Williams, Associate Biologist Division of Wildlife Research, Brigham, Utah
? ?	? ?	Dr. Pfoutz collected 10 aluminum bands during three visits to the island from May to July 1944. He did not report the numbers to me.

The twenty-six birds reported here added to those of the two previous reports makes a total of 124 specimens accounted for out of the 2316 young birds banded. It is interesting to note that gulls reared on Rock Island, Utah Lake, Utah have been taken in the following states: Vancouver, B. C.; Washington, Oregon, California, Lower California, Mexico (Colima), Nevada, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming.

From this study it would appear that the great majority of gulls reared in Utah go to the Pacific Coast and western states; also that gulls banded in 1940 and 1941 were back as mature breeding birds in 1946. Many females, banded on Utah Lake, were observed by the writer nesting on the dyke in the cooling reservoir at the Geneva Steel Plant in the spring of 1946.

This project has been of value in furnishing definite information concerning the migration and range of the California Gull. Many of the gulls return to the place of hatching to carry on their breeding and nesting. Female gulls banded on Rock Island were found, five and six years after being banded, nesting on Rock Island and the Steel plant dykes in Utah Lake.