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Route 1, Box 363, Sneads Ferry, N.C., 23 February 1970

## **East Coast Tern Watch**

This summer volunteers from Nova Scotia to South Carolina will band young Common and Roseate Terns with a colored plastic band in addition to the US Fish and Wildlife Service band. The plastic band will be placed on the leg opposite the aluminum. Each province and state will use a different color so that observers can recognize birds from different areas.

Through observations of these color banded birds we hope to gain information regarding the following questions. How far do birds banded from different areas along the coast as well as inland range from their breeding colonies during their post breeding dispersal? Do birds from different areas along the coast concentrate at particular places in the fall? How late are these species seen at different points along the coast?

The following people will participate in color banding this summer, using the listed colors: Nova Scotia-I.A. McLaren-yellow; Maine-Libby, Hatch, Gobeil-red and white horizontal stripe; Massachusetts-Howard-orange; Connecticut-Procter-green and white horizontal stripe; Lake Eric, New York-Clarke-Light blue; Western Long Island, N.Y.-Heath, Gochfeld-royal blue; Eastern Long Island, N.Y.-Wilcox-black and white horizontal stripe; New Jersey-Savell-green; Maryland-Van Velzen-white; Virginia-Byrd-black; North Carolina-Davis, Fussell-green and brown horizontal stripe; Great Gull Island, N.Y.-Hays-color combinations using US Fish and Wildlife Service band and three color bands, two bands on each leg.

Please watch for color banded terns and send observations to the bander in your area or to: Miss Helen Hays

Great Gull Island Project American Museum of Natural History Central Park West at 79th St. New York, N.Y. 10024

We would also like to compile a list of places along the coast where concentrations of Common and/or Roscate Terns can be seen in late summer and early fall. If you know of any such places send them to Miss H. Hays at the above address. Any information you can supply on color banded terns or concentration points along the coast would be of great help.

## **American Birding Association**

CBC members, particularly those who make birding trips to other states, may be interested in joining the American Birding Association, P.O. Box 4335, Austin, Texas 78751. Founded less than two years ago, this club offers a lively magazine called *Birding*, sends members file sheets with tips for planning birding trips, and publishes annually the names of members having the longest lists for the A.O.U. area, world, or home states. In other words, ABA is devoted to promoting the recreational aspects of bird watching. One of its most useful projects is encouraging birders to keep accurate records of what was seen, when, and where. ABA makes the record keeping fun ... a competitive sport.

The Chat