

Medicine Lake Pelican Colony: Banding Efforts 2004

2 July Banded 500 youngsters on Big Island. We estimate we banded about 90% of the young in the colony this year.

Band retrievals off dead young

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number of bands</u>
8 July	40
9 July	58
13 July	13
19 July	13
21 July	5
26 July	7
27 July	4
2 August	32
9 August	24 (Nick's final visit to colony)
11 August	5
16 August	6
26 August	5
31 August	3
<u>7 Sept.</u>	<u>7</u>
TOTAL	222 bands picked up off dead young

$222/500 = 44.4\%$ mortality of banded young

So, if we banded 90% of the young present and had 44.4% mortality rate, that would equal a total of 247, or, approximately, 250 dead young.

To: Bird Banding Lab

From: Marco Restani, St Cloud State University, Permit #22513, and Elizabeth Madden, Biologist, Medicine Lake NWR, Montana

Re: Banding Schedules

1 October 2004

Enclosed is a disk and hard copies of banding schedules for 500 bands placed on American white pelicans this summer. Unfortunately we ran into a bad situation where we ended up using bands from 10 strings intermittently and we have gaps in the band numbers used. You will also notice that there are 222 of the 500 bands recorded as "Band Destroyed." These pelicans were hit with West Nile Virus right after banding, and we picked these 222 bands off dead birds during July and August at the banding site.

So, these gaps in bands used and the high numbers of "bands destroyed" apparently created some problems with your Band Manager program. Although the bands used were all entered and accounted for in the program, the schedules print out improperly, printing only a few bands on each page, and thus re-printing each 50 band span many times (and they do not print in order). Beth Madden, who entered the data, communicated with Esther Mills on this, and she said it would be okay, since the actual data is all there and it seems to just be a problem with the printing of the schedules.

If there are any problems with the data on your end at the BBL, please contact Beth Madden 406-789-2305 ext 109, elizabeth_madden@fws.gov.