

THE WASH WADER RINGING GROUP REPORT 1973/74

R.W. Summers,
Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology,
University of Cape Town,
Rondebosch,
7700.

This report outlines the activities of the W.W.R.G. over the year 1973-1974. It gives a brief account of the latest increases in knowledge of the migrations based on the less usual recoveries, and an account of the use being made of the data in the field of conservation (the Wash is threatened by a proposed water storage reservoir). The bulk of the report is devoted to the presentation of all the ringing recoveries/controls for 1973-74, plus maps giving the sites of all recoveries/controls. This is the main merit of the report for such documentation of raw data is unlikely to be published elsewhere. The final section of the report deals with a preliminary analysis of data on weights of the ten main study species. This includes Turnstone, Knot, Grey Plover, Ringed Plover and Sanderling which also occur in southern Africa. It is gratifying to note that plans for publication progress. Some definitive works on wader migration will certainly emerge from this group.

COLOUR RINGED SANDWICH TERNS

At Buffelsbaai, Cape Point Nature Reserve, on the 27 February, 1976, three colour marked Sandwich Terns, were seen amongst a group of terns and gulls on the shore. There were at least 60 Sandwich Terns, many of which had metal rings. Two counts gave 10 of 50 ringed and 11 of 60. There were also two ringed Swift Terns. The colours of the rings were:

White above Red on left leg,
Turquoise above Red on left leg,
Pale green above Yellow on right leg.