



NORTH AMERICAN BANDING COUNCIL
Requirements for Certification as a Waterfowl Bander.

- Knowledge of the Acts and Treaties related to bird banding
- Knowledge of the required permits for various banding activities
- Knowledge of the Animal Care Committee
- Knowledge of the history of waterfowl banding
- Knowledge of recoveries and how they are obtained
- Knowledge of the process for banding guidelines
- Knowledge of the various baits
- Knowledge of the precautions to take to avoid waterfowl mortality
- Knowledge of the various trap designs and how to construct those traps
- Knowledge of the various capture methods
- Knowledge of how to build holding boxes
- Knowledge of the health and safety precautions for the bander
- Knowledge of the proper techniques used for waterfowl euthanasia
- Knowledge of waterfowl diseases
- Knowledge of data management and the keeping of field records
- Knowledge of the sources for additional information about waterfowl banding.
- Ability to select waterfowl banding sites
- Ability to handle waterfowl humanely
- Ability to operate and understand various waterfowl banding equipment
- Ability to age and sex a variety of waterfowl species using numerous techniques
- Demonstrated ability to use the “Pyle” guide or similar guides that may be available in French or Spanish

Workshop

- To include various specimens of waterfowl, this may include study skins; wings and feathers. These would be supplemented with pictures and text.
- Various banding trap designs and equipment
- Enough copies of guides to waterfowl identification for all candidates
- Various literature; guides and audio visual aids

Field portion of the Workshop

- Required that the field portion includes live birds
- Imperative that at least five birds are handled (this may be determined by trainer that this is not necessary)
- Imperative that at least five birds are aged and sexed. (this may be determined by trainer that this is not necessary)

- Imperative that at least five birds are banded (this may be determined by trainer that this is not necessary)
- Demonstrated ability to keep field notes
- Demonstrated ability to teach techniques to others

NABC CERTIFICATION FOR WATERFOWL

To be certified, the candidate must have a total of at least 80 hours (500 hours for trainer) of field and workshop experience with not less than 72 hours (500 hours for trainer) of field experience. There must be a minimum of eight hours of workshop instruction. Field experience hours may be with a variety of banders but must be confirmed with a written testimonial. Prior experience may be verified by the trainer when the bander has worked on their own for more than two years. Workshop hours must be verified by the trainer.

The pass mark of the written test will be 80% for a bander and 90% for a trainer.

A person certified as a waterfowl bander or a waterfowl trainer does not need to be re-certified.