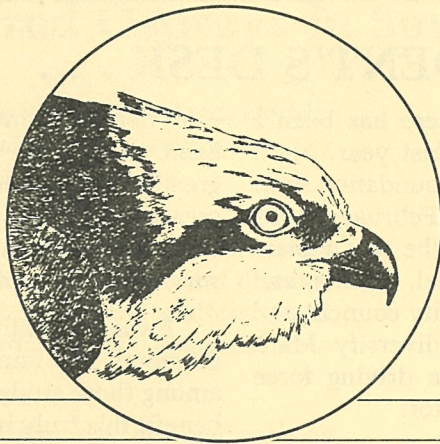


The International Osprey Foundation

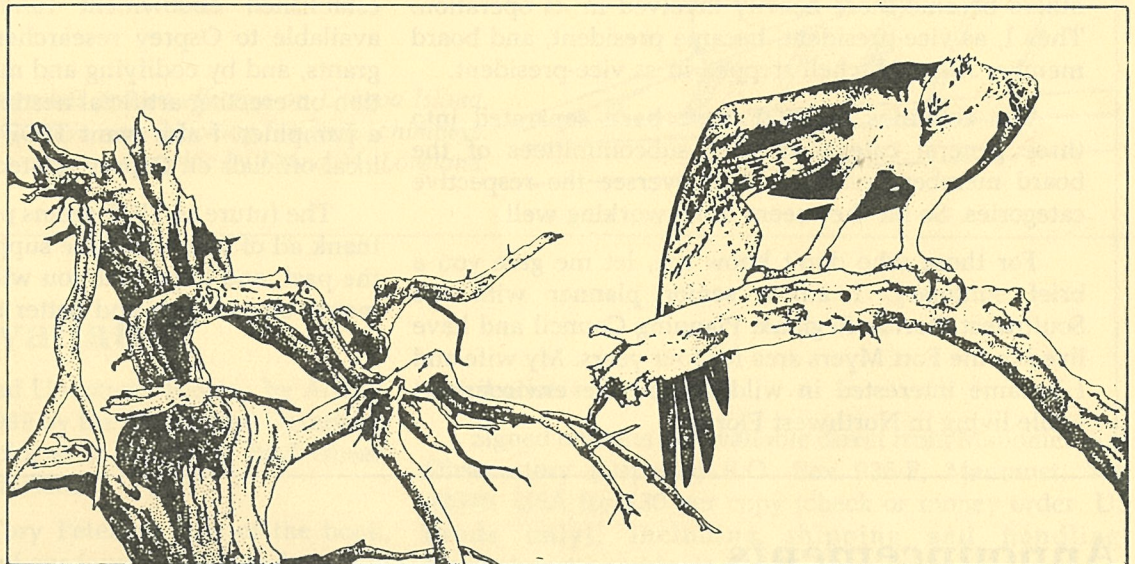


Newsletter

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

JULY, 1989

An illustration by
Margaret LaFarge from
*Ospreys: A Natural and
Unnatural History*, by
Alan F. Poole. See "New
Books Available", page 3.



Raptor researchers invited to apply for TIOF's first grant

In 1986 The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) created an endowment fund to provide financial support to those studying Osprey and other raptors. This reflects one of the major purposes of the Foundation which, according to its articles of incorporation, is to promote the study and preservation of the Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) and other raptors throughout the world.

The endowment fund has reached a level which will allow TIOF to offer a modest grant of up to \$1,000, which will be awarded on January 15, 1990. The Foundation is looking to support the research activities of a graduate student with the main focus on the Osprey. However, research work with other raptors may be considered. The award recipient will be expected to provide a report to the Foundation on his or her research activities and use of the funds, probably within a year of receiving the grant. Additionally, the recipient may be invited to make a presentation at The International Osprey Foundation's annual meeting which is held on Sanibel Island, Florida in February or March.

Graduate students with a research project which may

qualify for consideration and who are interested in applying for the grant should submit a proposal outlining their project and the intended use of the funds to TIOF by November 15, 1989.

The availability of the grant will also be announced at the annual meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation in Veracruz, Mexico, in October, 1989. It will also be advertised in various publications.

TIOF is seeking additional contributions to the endowment fund to increase its ability to support research activities.

Those interested in applying for the award or in supporting the endowment fund should write to the following address:

THE INTERNATIONAL OSPREY FOUNDATION,
Endowment Fund,
P.O. Box 250
Sanibel, FL 33957-0250
USA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK . . .

As some of you may be aware, there has been a change of leadership for TIOF in the last year. Mark Westall, who has been president of the Foundation since its beginning, decided to step down in February, 1989 because of many demands on his time (he was a planning commissioner for the City of Sanibel, Florida, and in November, 1988 was elected to the city council) and to allow the Foundation's leadership to diversify. Mark remains a member of the board and a driving force behind TIOF in his role as project director.

He felt the future of TIOF would be better served if others became more heavily involved in its operation. Thus I, as vice-president, became president, and board member Anne Mitchell stepped in as vice-president.

The activities of TIOF have been separated into three general categories with subcommittees of the board members established to oversee the respective categories. So far they seem to be working well.

For those who don't know me, let me give you a brief summary: I am a senior planner with the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council and have lived in the Fort Myers area for four years. My wife and I became interested in wildlife and the environment while living in Northwest Florida.

We became involved with TIOF as volunteers on the Sanibel nest surveys shortly after moving here. We have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work up close with a creature as magnificent as the Osprey and want to do everything we can to insure its survival and, indeed, the survival of all raptors.

I want to continue the work of Mark and other board members to improve and increase communication among those studying Ospreys throughout the world, to benefit this truly international species. I also hope to expand the roles of TIOF by making sure the recently-established endowment fund is well funded and available to Osprey researchers in the form of small grants, and by codifying and making available information on erecting artificial nesting platforms by means of a pamphlet. I also want TIOF to work with state and local officials on Osprey-related matters.

The future of TIOF seems promising. I would like to thank all of you who have supported the Foundation in the past, and hope that you will continue to do so as it moves on to bigger and better things.

**David M. Loveland,
President**

Announcements

The Raptor Research Foundation and the ICBP World Working Group on Birds of Prey will have a joint meeting October 8-14, 1989 at the Hotel Mocambo, Veracruz City, Veracruz, Mexico.

Approximate costs will be \$420 for single and \$300 for double occupancy, including breakfast and dinner.

The major theme will be Biology and Conservation for Tropical Raptors. Mario A. Ramos is chairman of the local committee.

Those wishing to attend should write to Romeo Dominguez Barradas, Local Arrangements Committee, RRF/WWGBP Meeting, P.O. Box 388, Xalapa, Veracruz 91000, Mexico. Those requesting additional information will receive the formal meeting announcement and the call for papers.

□ □ □

The XX Ornithological Congress will convene in Christchurch, New Zealand, December 2-9, 1990. The program will include seven plenary lectures, 48 symposia, contributed papers, workshops, discussion groups and films.

There will be a mid-Congress excursion day and longer pre- and post-Congress excursions.

The second and final circular of the Congress will be available from October 1, 1989, and will include registration papers and forms for submitting papers as well as additional information.

Requests should be sent to Dr. Ben D. Bell, Secretary-General, XX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus, School of Biological Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington, P.O. Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand (Telex NZ 30882 VUWLIB; Facsimile NZ 64-4-712070).

The board of The International Osprey Foundation for 1989 - 1990

President, David M. Loveland

Vice-president, Anne Mitchell

Secretary, Pattee Loveland

Treasurer, Mark A. Westall

Project Director, Mark A. Westall

Directors; Norman Bowles, Frank Irvin, Erick Lindblad, Bob Southern, Norman Sturgis

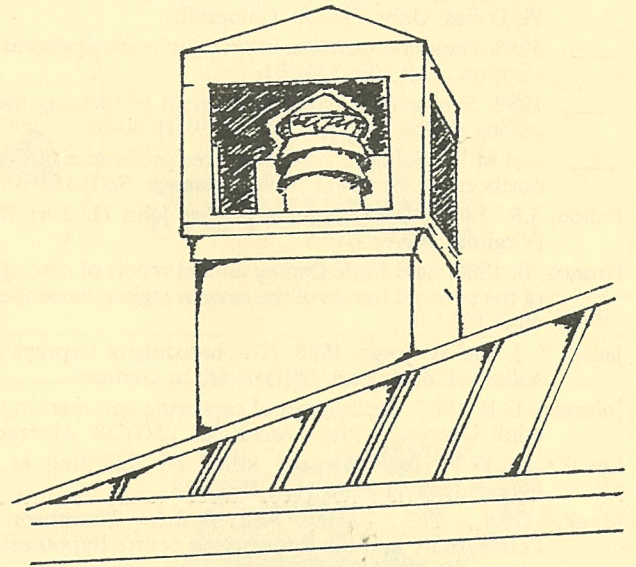
Problems of urbanized Ospreys in Southwest Florida

A burgeoning population of Ospreys on Useppa Island, Florida, unable to find enough suitable nesting sites, was resulting in many birds building nests on the chimneys of island homes.

Residents asked The International Osprey Foundation to help solve the problem and after visiting Useppa, TIOF project director Mark Westall suggested sites for artificial nesting platforms and came up with a design for chimney guards. The two measures combined proved an effective solution.

Earlier attempts by residents to discourage nesting, such as covering the chimneys with mesh, failed.

This chimney guard design has proven effective on Useppa Island, Florida, where nesting Ospreys were blocking residents' chimneys. Graphic by David M. Loveland.



New books available

Ospreys: A Natural and Unnatural History by Alan F. Poole, was published in 1989 by the Cambridge University Press. Poole is a staff biologist at Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, Massachusetts.

Ornithologist Roger Tory Peterson says of the book, "This book has taken one of our favorite birds and put it in a global perspective . . . a tremendous job."

The 250-page book, with illustrations by Margaret LaFarge, covers the ecology and status of Ospreys worldwide, with special attention devoted to the successful restoration of threatened populations in Scotland and the northeastern USA. There are chapters of migration, foraging, breeding behavior, threats, management, status and

distribution and nest sites.

Signed editions are available direct from Manomet Bird Observatory (Ospreys) P.O. Box 936-F, Manomet, MA 02345, USA for \$30 per copy (check or money order, US funds only), including shipping and handling. Massachusetts residents add \$1.40 sales tax.

□ □ □

There are just three copies left of the **Proceedings of the Southeastern U.S. and Caribbean Osprey Symposium** published by TIOF in 1984. Cost is \$16 from TIOF, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, FL 33957.

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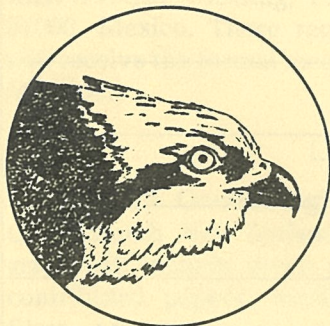
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TIOF

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Address Change Requested

Fish farms attract Ospreys

Ospreys have joined Cormorants, Gulls, Black-crowned Night Herons and Common Grackles as targets of complaints from owners of fish hatcheries and farms. Fish eating birds are said to be responsible for losses of about \$450,000 in Pennsylvania, according to the PA Fish Commission. That translates to 1.1 million fish of various types.

This was reported by Stanley Senner in *U.S. Birdwatch* in April, 1989.

A catfish grower in Arkansas claims an annual loss of \$185,000 in fish and \$25,000 in supplies and labor due to Double-crested Cormorants.

In 1988 FWS issued 47 deprecation permits in the Southeast. The permits would have allowed a take of 3,028 birds; about 1,300 cormorants were actually killed, Senner stated. In February, the Catfish Farmers of America approved a resolution asking for emergency authority to kill still more fish-eating cormorants.

Fish Commission personnel believe protective netting is the best, albeit expensive, solution, reported Senner.

Request for assistance

Observers are requested to report sightings of color-banded Ospreys, and characters on bands, following the banding of birds at Loon Lake, Saskatchewan. Adults have a black, and nestlings a green, anodized aluminum band on the left leg. Both ages have a regular FWS band on the right leg.

Swainson's hawks were color-banded at Kindersley, Saskatchewan, and at Hanna, Alberta. Kindersley nestlings have a green anodized band on the left leg and the regular aluminum band on the right. Hanna birds, banded by Josef A. Schmutz, carry red or blue plastic bands plus a regular aluminum band. All of these mentioned color bands have two letters or numbers, one above the other.

Sightings should be referred to C. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask., S7N OJ8 (306-244-0742) and the Bird Banding Office.

New Osprey Society in Canada

The recently-formed Georgian Bay Osprey Society may be contacted via Kitty and George Falls, at 35 Nanton Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4W 2Y8, Canada.

The group's stated objectives are to protect and enhance the habitat of the Georgian Bay Osprey, the study and survey of the life cycle, habits, nesting and habitat, and to promote awareness, appreciation and communication.

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