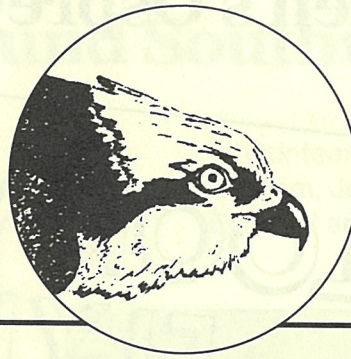


The International Osprey Foundation



Osprey Observer

Sanibel Island, Florida

March 2004

Environmentalist and young students to tell amazing Kentucky osprey recovery story

Don't miss them at the Osprey Foundation annual meeting March 28

The International Osprey Foundation's annual meeting on Sunday, March 28 promises to be one like no other that TIOF has ever presented.

Ed Ray, founder and director of Kentucky Environmental Education Projects (KEEP), Inc. will be the featured speaker. With him will be students in grades 3-5 from Caldwell County Elementary sharing their Kentucky osprey recovery story, which turned into an award-winning project for the youngsters.

It's an exciting story considering that for 50 years, Lake Barkley had not a single osprey.

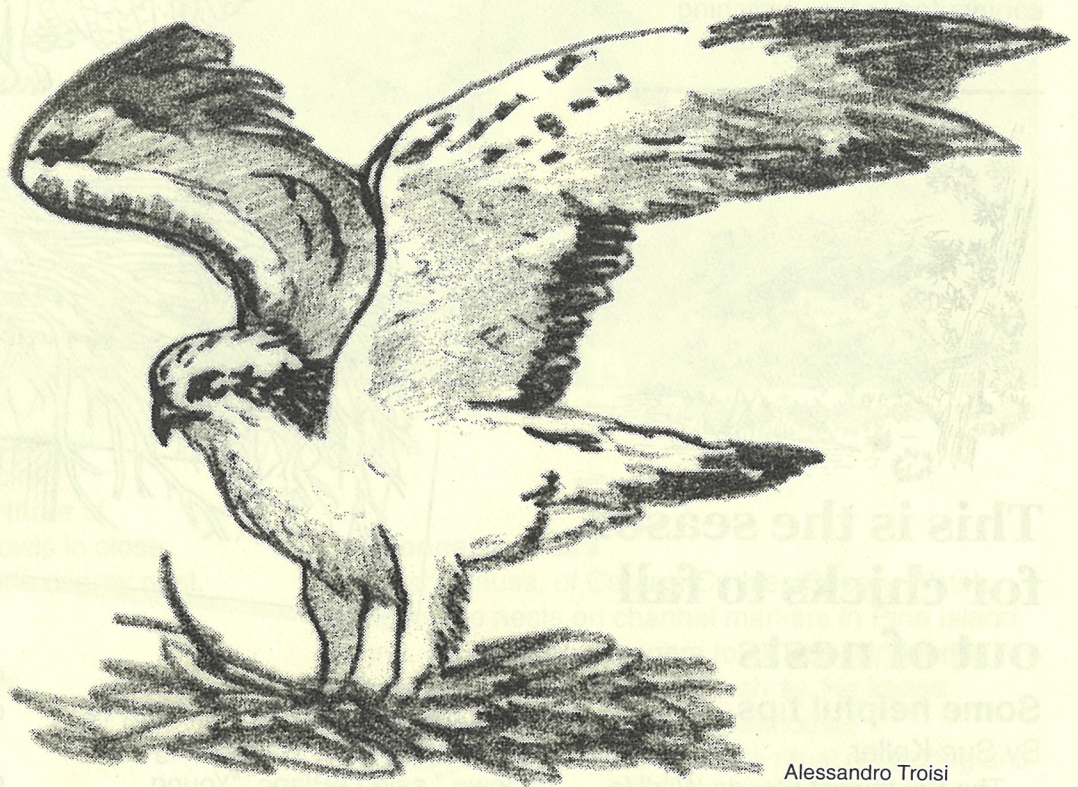
Ray will also describe "the role of the students in helping to provide for our growing population, including the live cams" used to monitor the progress of an osprey family.

Ray usually travels with his guitar, which he uses to accompany himself singing songs that teach about wildlife.

"The students and I will do at least one osprey song together," he promises.

May through October, Ray conducts daily eco-cruises on Lake Barkley including an annual osprey nesting survey.

Raptors have figured largely in Ray's life.



Alessandro Troisi

While chief naturalist at Land Between The Lakes, Ray was involved with the reintroduction of bald eagles and ospreys through very successful hacking projects. He also participated in aerial eagle surveys and worked very closely with live raptors and the public at the LBL nature center.

"Presently, I am very proud that through KEEP, I am successfully bringing agencies, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology,

elementary and vocational students, community organizations, private business and the public together to help our growing osprey population".

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Sanibel Community House, Periwinkle Way.

Everyone is welcome to hear this heartwarming story. Admission for TIOF members is free; a \$3 donation is asked of non-members.

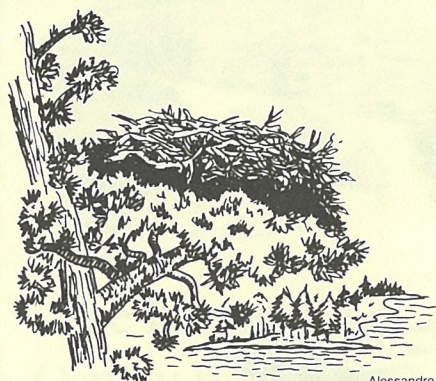
TIOF funds children's Osprey coloring book

We're proud to report that a children's educational coloring book, funded with a grant from TIOF, is now available free. It's a handy book for parents and grandparents to keep around.

It's 16 pages of drawings of ospreys with narrative explaining the osprey life cycle – and there's a test at the end.

Copies of "Look Who's Flying," by Claudia Burns and Dave Horton, can be picked up at the Ding Darling refuge visitors center on Sanibel Island.

The West Coast Inland Navigation District also contributed to the publishing costs.



This is the season for chicks to fall out of nests

Some helpful tips

By Sue Keller

The Southwest Florida Wildlife Rehab Center at The Conservancy in Naples receives many calls throughout the nesting season from anxious residents who find young ospreys on the ground and are not sure what to do.

Rebecca LaBlanc, rehab center specialist, outlined how the public can help.

First, call immediately and tell them whether you are reporting an injured bird or a healthy baby.



"One way you can tell if they're healthy is if their wings hang down," said LeBlanc. "Young ospreys are not as aggressive as adult birds. They are mostly scared when they fall out of the nest."

Start by covering their heads so they are not frightened.

The rehab center, sometimes with the assistance of the Lee County Electric Co-op and their bucket truck, sometimes put the young back in the nest. In order to do that there must be at least one other young osprey still in the nest

or the parents may not return to care for the rescued baby.

If there isn't another baby in the nest, the young osprey is taken back to the center and fed until it is able to fly and eat on its own.

Joanna Fitzgerald, manager of the rehab center, said the center is open 365 days a year. Volunteer veterinarians evaluate the bird's injuries. Some may need x-rays and surgery. If the birds are not able to return to the wild, it may be necessary to euthanize them.

To report an injured or young bird that needs help in Collier County, call 239-262-2273.

Ospreys around Southwest Florida

Sanibel Island

On Sanibel, 122 osprey chicks fledged – the most in at least 10 years. This represents a real comeback since 1997 and 1998 when only 33 and 52 chicks survived to independence. The decline is thought to be associated with red tide outbreaks in the run-up to the nesting season.

Five volunteer nestwatch groups monitored six nesting areas from one end of the island to the other in 2003, making the rounds every two weeks.

The island had 136 nests categorized as “occupied,” which means there was activity on them, though not necessarily any eggs laid.

Of those, 81 nests were productive.

Here’s the breakdown of nests:

Natural – 64

Platform – 49

Chimney – 3

Pine Island

Marsha Perlman reported June 15, 2003 from Pine Island that last nesting season, seven volunteer observers monitored 77 nests. Of those, 24 were natural nests, meaning they were located in trees, 20 were on man-made platforms.

There were 74 active nests. Six of these had adult osprey activity but no chicks.

We believe the lack of activity in three of the nests was due to great horned owls in close proximity and actually taking over one osprey nest.

Nests monitored were on:

Trees 36

Platforms and telephone poles 25

Disks on poles or towers 8

Ballfield light poles 4

Chimneys 2

Docks 1

Channel markers 1

It’s estimated a total of 107 chicks hatched and 106 fledged, including five sets of triplets.

We aren’t sure about the number that hatched because many of our nests are in Norfolk pine trees and we were unable to see into these nests.

We had a good year and we all enjoyed our experiences. We still have many areas of Pine Island with many nests that weren’t monitored. Hopefully, next season we will be able to recruit a few more volunteers.

Our team included Rich Little, Jane Erskin, Richard Graham, John Nyhus, Dianna Williams, Bonnie Edmond and Marsha Perlman.



This photograph shot last year by Pamela Moriarty shows ospreys mating in Montana.

Channel markers

Stuart Stauss, of Captiva Cruises Osprey Watch, monitors the nests on channel markers in Pine Island Sound. He treats passengers to an eco-experience with ospreys as the stars of the show. He keeps osprey tracking forms in the wheelhouse.

It was great to watch the whole ritual of nesting and chick growth from our vantage point on the Lady Chadwick, he reported in May 2003.

Last year’s results:

Marker 45A – 2 chicks fledged

Marker 51 – None

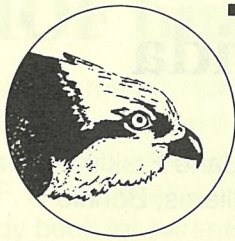
Marker 54 – 3 chicks fledged

Marker 57 – Nest abandoned (high winds, red tide)

Marker 60 – 2 chicks fledged

Marker 63 – Nest abandoned (high winds, red tide)

Useppa 9 – Nest abandoned (high winds, red tide)

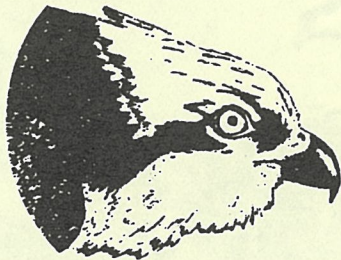


TIOF

P.O. Box 250
Sanibel Island, FL 33957

Please Forward

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SANIBEL, FL
PERMIT NO. 2



The International
Osprey Foundation
Sanibel

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Our popular T-shirts in white, 100% cotton, feature a large osprey head in brown with yellow eye. Price is \$15 each, including shipping. The Ikki Matsumoto poster depicts an osprey.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Quantity: Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ Extra Large _____

Total T-Shirts _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____ for T-Shirts

Ikki Osprey Poster: Quantity Posters _____ \$15 each, including shipping

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ for Posters

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Send with check or money order to:

TIOF, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, FL 33957

MEMBERSHIP FORM

_____ Please enroll me as a member of TIOF

_____ Please renew my membership in TIOF

Check Membership Category:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--|-------|
| ___ 1. Individual | \$15 | ___ 5. Contributing | \$100 |
| ___ 2. Family | \$20 | ___ 6. Donor | \$250 |
| ___ 3. Sustaining | \$25 | ___ 7. Life | \$500 |
| ___ 4. Supporting | \$50 | ___ 8. Student (to Under-graduate level) | \$50 |
| ___ 9. Corporate | - \$25 or more | | |

_____ Name

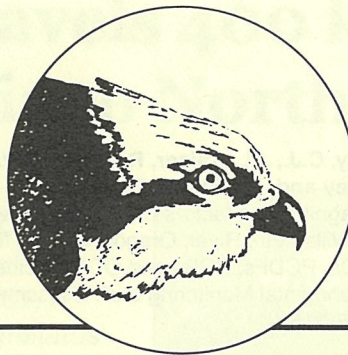
_____ Address

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip

_____ Country

ALL MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE
MAIL TO: TIOF, P.O. Box 250, Sanibel, FL 33957, USA

The International Osprey Foundation



International Newsletter

Sanibel Island, Florida

March 2004

Scottish Ospreys 2003

Dr. Fiona McPhie is a research ecologist with the Highland Foundation for Wildlife and Glasgow University in Scotland. She is conducting a study of the life history and population dynamics of Ospreys in Scotland, concentrating on those nesting in the North of Scotland. This project is part of a long-term study co-ordinated and carried out since the 1960s by Roy Dennis, director of the Highland Foundation for Wildlife. Here is an update from Fiona McPhie of how things are going with the Scottish Ospreys, and some information about Fiona and Roy's work.

It's now 50 years since Ospreys began to recolonise Scotland, and in 2003 we had another successful year with over 160 breeding pairs. Some 74 nests were occupied in our main study population in the Highlands; 59 of these pairs laid eggs, and 98 chicks were fledged.

The first birds made their way back from migration early in March, and we had a pair incubating by the 5th of April – our earliest ever. However, there was then a delay in further arrivals as, whilst the weather was (uncharacteristically!) beautiful in Scotland, there was bad weather over Spain and North Africa and a number of established pairs and individuals failed to return.

Within the Highlands, there are 7 identifiable subpopulations of Ospreys, and my research centres around the differences in productivity between them and what the main causes of this might be. Over the last two seasons I have collected field data on the foraging success of breeding males at important feeding sites for different subpopulations, and also on feeding rates and territorial intrusion rates at individual nest-sites.

I have found interesting differences in reproductive output between birds dependent on coastal and inland food sources which suggest that profitability of foraging sites is an important geographic limiting factor in terms of the number of pairs a subpopulation can support, and also that the importance of prevailing weather conditions varies between sites. Further, as breeding density increases, rates of intrusion at nest-sites also increase; males then begin to spend more time at the nest-site,



Fiona McPhie in the Scottish Highlands.

causing a decrease in feeding rates, which has interesting implications for the effect of population growth on average productivity, and for the initiation of new subpopulations.

This study is giving us exciting insights into what happens as a population grows and spreads; we are currently also looking at patterns in individual breeding success (osprey chicks have been colour-ringed since the 1970s yielding an impressive amount of individual-

See Scottish p4

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The United States Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Boise, Idaho, maintains a Raptor Information System database of articles and papers. This bibliography of recent articles was drawn from that database <http://ris.wr.usgs.gov/> in January 2004 and includes publications listed since TIOF's March 2003 newsletter was published.

Abdunazarov, B., E. Kreuzberg-Mukhina and M. Atajanov. 2003. Evaluation and status of birds of prey in the new edition of the Red Book of Uzbekistan. World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

Dombrovski, V. 2003. New data on numbers of birds of prey breeding in Belarus. World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

Balbontín, J., V. Penteriani and M. Ferrer. 2003. Variations in the age of mates as an early warning signal of changes in population trends? The case of Bonelli's eagle in Andalusia. *Biological Conservation* 109:417-423.

Eakle, W.L. 2003. Raptors of Sulawesi revisited. *International Hawkwatcher* :9-18.

Elliott, J., P. Shaw, S. Lee, M. Wayland, L. Wilson and D. Muir. 2003. An assessment of sources and effects of contaminants in Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

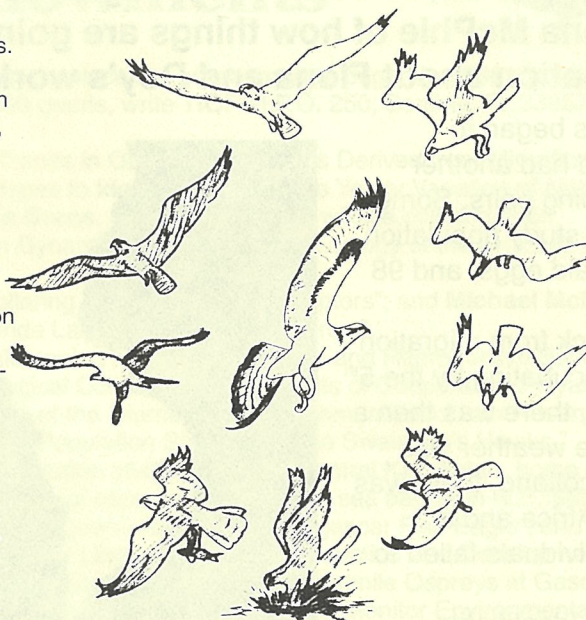
Fernie, K.J., J.E. Smits and G.R. Bortolotti. 2003. Developmental toxicity of in ovo exposure to polychlorinated biphenyls; I. Immediate and subsequent effects on first-generation nestling American kestrels (*Falco sparverius*). *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 22:554-560.

Henny, C.J., R.A. Grove, J.L. Kaiser and V.R. Bentley. 2003. An evaluation of Columbia River Ospreys for long-term contaminant monitoring of large rivers. World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

Henny, C.J., J.L. Kaiser, R.A. Grove, V.R. Bentley and J.E. Elliott. 2003. Biomagnification factors (fish to osprey eggs from Willamette River, Oregon, U.S.A.) for PCDDs, PCDFs, PCBs and OC pesticides. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment* 84:275-315.

Hoffman, S.W. and J.P. Smith. 2003. Population trends of migratory raptors in western North America, 1977-2001. *Condor* 105:397-419.

Kennedy, S.W., S.P. Jones and J.E. Elliott. 2003. Sensitivity of bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) hepatocyte cultures to induction of cytochrome P4501A by 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin. *Ecotoxicology* 12:163-170.



Laing, D.K., D.M. Bird, T.E. Chubbs and G. Humphries. 2003. Migration routes, timing and nest site fidelity of osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) and Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) as they relate to military aircraft activity in Labrador. *Argos Animal Tracking Symposium*. Annapolis, Maryland, March 24-26, 2003.

Martin, P.A., S.R. de Solla and P. Ewins. 2003. Chlorinated hydrocarbon contamination in osprey eggs and nestlings from the Canadian Great Lakes Basin, 1991-1995. *Ecotoxicology* 12:209-224.

Ontiveros, D. 2003. Nesting distribution, food habits, and conservation of osprey on Boavista Island (Archipelago of Cape Verde). *Journal of Raptor Research* 37:67-70.

Reche, M.P., P.A. Jiménez, F. Alvarez, J.F. de los Ríos García, A.M. Rojas and P. D. Pedro. 2003. Incidence of salmonellae in captive and wild free-living raptorial birds in central Spain. *Journal of Veterinary Medical Science B* 50:42-44.

Santana, F.R. 2003. Falconiformes in Cuba, status, distribution, migration and conservation. World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

Weber, M., D. Schmidt and J. Hädrich. 2003. Chlororganische rückstände in eiern des fischadlers (*Pandion haliaetus*) aus Deutschland=Organochlorine residues in German osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) eggs. *Journal für Ornithologie* 144:45-57.

Wink, M., H. Sauer-Gürth and H.-H. Witt. 2003. Phylogenetic differentiation in the Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Germany, 6{+th} World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls; Budapest, Hungary, 18-23 May 2003. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.raptors-international.de>)

Blem, C.R., L.B. Blem and P.J. Harmata. 2002. Twine causes significant mortality in nestling ospreys. *Wilson Bulletin* 114:528-529.

Houston, C.S. and M. Martell. 2002. Speedy migration; Saskatchewan's first osprey satellite transmitter. *Blue Jay* 60:74-79.

Silva e Silva, R. and F. Olmos. 2002. Osprey ecology in the mangroves of southeastern Brazil. *Journal of Raptor Research* 36:328-331.

U.S.G.S. Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center. 2002. Ospreys in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. (Also available on the World Wide Web at <http://fresc.usgs.gov/products/fs/fs-153-02.pdf>)

Ringed osprey travels 400 kilometers from Saudi Arabia to North East Africa

By J.K. Tiwari

Ecologist, Seawater Forests Initiative

While on Mangroves and bird survey of the Green Island near Massawa in January 2001, I came across one pair of Osprey *Pandion heliatus* nesting on ground. It was very interesting to see that one of the adult osprey had an aluminium ring in its tarsus. I tried to see the banded Osprey from as close as possible. The only details I could read on the ring was K00.

I took several pictures of the nesting pair. The nest was on the ground and had three eggs in it. On contacting the bird-watchers working in Africa through the africanbirding@yahoo.com

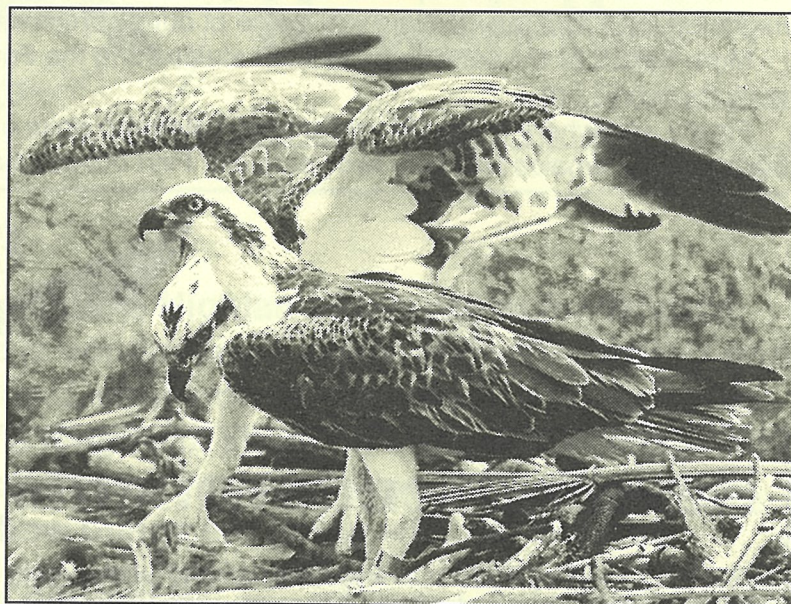
I finally heard from Dr. Peter Symens that the Osprey might have been ringed in Saudi Arabia. Dr. Peter Symens provided me with some addresses of the scientist working in Saudi Arabia. On writing to various people, I finally got very encouraging reply from Dr. Paul Fishers, who wrote to me:

"I'm sure the K00 is one of my ospreys ringed in the Farasan archipelago, and possibly one of three birds ringed to the west of Farasan Kebir in 1994. These birds were tagged with metal rings and no colour ring they all fledged late in the season."

Ring no.	Date	Island	Lat./Long.
K000651	19/4/94	Jabal Mohammad Island	17 33.242N 41 44.388E
K000652	19/4/94	West Mandhar Island	16 58.060N 41 47.261E
K000653	21/4/94	Ra's Farasan (Kebir)	16 51.913N 41 45.709E

The banded Osprey was seen again in the winters of 2002 and 2003 but not nesting in Green Island. This sighting of a ringed Osprey shows that this Osprey traveled some 400 kms distance from Farsan to Green Island.

Jugal Tiwari can be reached at 40.41 Ramanagar Colony, near Central School, Bharatpur, Rajasthan, India 321001



This photograph of nesting ospreys was taken by Jugal Tiwari in Eritrea, in N.E. Africa, on Green Island, Massawa.

Raptor Research meeting set for November in Bakersfield, California

The Raptor Research Foundation has scheduled its 2004 annual meeting for Nov. 10-13 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bakersfield, California. It will be held in conjunction with the California Hawking Club's annual field meet.

Details will be posted at http://biology.boisestate.edu/raptor/2004_meeting.htm as they become available.

For general information regarding the meeting, contact Daniel E. Varland, Conference Committee Chair, (tel:360-538-4582; or e-mail: daniel.varland@rayonier.com).

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations on any aspect of raptor biology, ecology, conservation, or management are welcome. Deadline for presentation abstracts is July 31. Details and instructions will be posted on the web site identified above as they become available.

Special sessions under consideration include Ecology and Conservation of Wetland-Dependent Raptors, West Nile Virus, and Management of Raptor Electrocutations in California.

For more information on the scientific program, contact Angela Matz, Scientific Program Chair (Tel: 907-456-0442; e-mail: angela_matz@fws.gov).

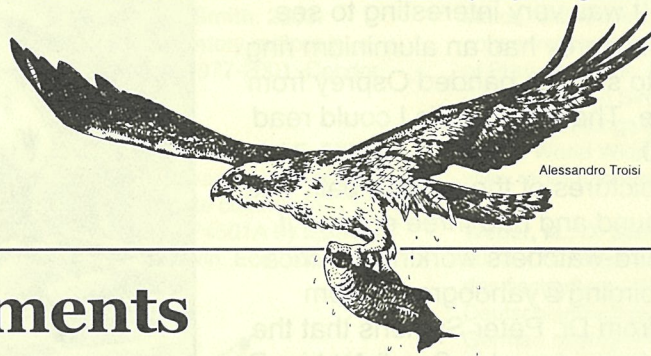
Scottish from page 1

based data) within and between the different subpopulations.

Roy's satellite-transmitter studies continue to reveal fascinating information about what our Ospreys get up to in the winter: in particular it is becoming clear that, rather than going all the way to Africa, some Scottish Ospreys now winter as far north as Spain and Portugal. This shows how changing weather conditions can affect bird migration, and also may explain why some of our Ospreys are arriving back so early in the season.

More details of the satellite-transmitter studies and the Foundation's other projects can be found at www.roydennis.org

Finally, elsewhere in the UK, at Rutland water, two pairs of translocated Ospreys bred at Rutland Water. One of the breeding females was only two years old! Find out more about this at www.ospreys.org.uk



Research endowments

TIOF has awarded \$19,000 in endowments since the grant program began in 1990. Deadline for application is Jan. 31 each year. For details about applying for the \$1,000 grants, write TIOF at P.O. 250, Sanibel, FL 33957. or e-mail tim@islandwater.com
Previous recipients:

2003 – Ernesto Ruelas Inzuna, for “Trends in Osprey Populations Derived from Migration Counts in Mexico 1991-2003”; **Sara Ress** for “Use of Stable Hydrogen Isotopes to Identify and Assess Yearly Variation of Natal Origins among Raptors migrating through the Florida Keys”; and **Claudia Burns**, Sanibel Island, for wildlife coloring book.

2002 – Ruth E. Tingay for “Population Dynamics and Behavioral Ecology of the Critically Endangered Madagascar Fish Eagle: Implications for Conservation.”

2001 – Dr. Mark Martell for “Radio Collaring Osprey and other Raptors”; and **Michael McMillian**, for “Time Budget Analysis of Osprey Sub-colonies at two South Florida Lakes; a sink and a source.”

2000 – Frank Quamen for “Factors Influencing Nest Site Selection and Reproductive Success of Ospreys in Wisconsin”; also **Michelle Donaghy Cannon**, for “Ecological Correlates and Benefits of Cooperative Polyandry in the Galapagos Hawk.”

1999 – Sarah M Karpanty for “A Survey of the Diurnal Raptor Communities of four Reserves in Madagascar.”

1998 – Dale Trexel for a study, “Genetic Population Structure in the Swainson’s Hawks.”

1997 – Todd Katzner – for raptor conservation studies in North-Central Kazakstan, home of four eagle species.

1996 – Irina Utekhina – For aerial surveys of ospreys and Steller’s sea eagles in N.E. Siberia since 1991.

1995 – James Berkelman for “Habitat Requirements of the Madagascar Fish Eagle”; and **Kimberly J. Fernie** for “Effects of Electromagnetic Fields Generated by Power Lines on Avian Reproduction and Development.”

1994 – Lauren N. Gilson – for “Behavioral Strategy Selection in Juvenile Ospreys at Gascade Reservoir.”

1993 – Ruth Anne Ebert for “The Use of Avian Indicator Species to Monitor Environmental Mercury Exposure.”

1992 – Michael McMillian for studies into the effects of pesticides on reproduction on Lake Istopoga, Florida.

1991 – David J. Green for study of female osprey production decisions and male parental effort.

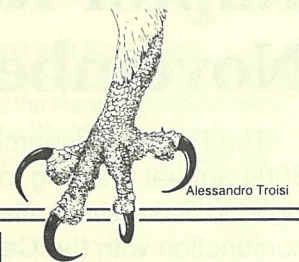
1990 – Gustavo Danemann for study of ospreys in coastal lagoons of Baja California, Mexico.

Check these out

<http://www.speciesatrisk2004.ca/html/welcome.html>

<http://biology.boisestate.edu/raptor/JRR.htm>

<http://biology.boisestate.edu/raptor/2004%20meeting/2004%20meeting.htm>



TIOF life members

Congressman and Mrs. Porter Goss

Dr. Eugene Majerowicz

Dr. Harvey Rothstein

Mr. Charles Rubright

Mr. Jim Fowler, San-Cap Nature Calendar

Ms. Margaret Smith

Robert and Rita Southern

James and Marsha Kannry

TIOF board

Tim Gardner, president

Anne Mitchell, vice president

Inge Glissman, treasurer/secretary

Mark “Bird” Westall, project director

Jerry Nickerson, Webmaster

Debbie Friedlund

Hartly Kleinberg

Jerry Nickerson