

1994

Osprey

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME & INLAND FISHERIES
PERFORMANCE REPORT (July 1, 1993 - June 30, 1994)

PROJECT TITLE:	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	PROJ. NO:	WE99R-3
STUDY TITLE:	RARE, THREATENED & ENDANGERED BIRD CONSERVATION	STUDY NO:	IV
JOB TITLE:	OSPREY	JOB NO:	IV
PERSONNEL:	DANA BRADSHAW, MITCHELL BYRD	COSTS:	
		Total:	\$10,400
		Federal:	\$7,800
		State:	\$2,600

SUMMARY:

Intensive status and distribution surveys for nesting ospreys have ceased due to their increasing population and subsequent decrease in priority status. As a result no formal osprey monitoring project was conducted this year. There were however 24 osprey chicks collected from the York River and Mobjack Bay for delivery to Pennsylvania as part of a continuing osprey re-introduction program in that state. The chick collection effort was a joint venture between the College of William and Mary, VDGIF, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. A cooperative agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard to schedule maintenance and repair operations after the nesting season has been very successful, with complete cooperation in Virginia waters resulting in reduced chick and egg losses from human disturbance. Numerous nesting complaints were handled by staff and contractors this year, and twenty or more nesting information packets and platform designs were provided to interested landowners.

OBJECTIVE A: To measure hatching and fledging success of a sample of osprey nests representative of all the major estuaries as well as the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

FINDINGS:

No formal osprey monitoring project was conducted this year to the decrease in the priority status of this species in conjunction with reduced funding.

OBJECTIVE B: To coordinate the transfer of young ospreys from Virginia to other states involved in reintroduction programs for this species.

FINDINGS:

Twenty four osprey chicks were collected from the York River and Mobjack Bay for delivery to Pennsylvania. This effort was coordinated and carried out by the College of William and Mary's Center for Conservation Biology. All chicks were collected and transported without incident.