Avayalik

Species: Golden Eagle
Life Stage: Sub-Adult
Gender: Female
Release Date: 3/21/2008
Release Location: Harford County, Maryland USA
Last Location: 1/21/15 11:07:21

Background

This golden eagle is a winter visitor to the Chesapeake Bay.

In spring, this eagle flies home to Canada for the summer months.

Hunting

- Rabbits
- Grassland prey along the marshes of the Bay

Nesting

Golden Eagles usually nest on cliffs or rob nests. They may also build nests in trees, on the ground and electrical towers.

This eagle was captured using a rocket net baited with a road killed deer. A golden was trapped in Highland Co, VA. A satellite transmitter was fitted to each bird with a backpack style harness.

http://www.wildlifetracking.org/index.shtml?project_id=349
This bald eagle is a summer visitor to the Chesapeake Bay.

In fall, this eagle flies home to Florida for the winter months, a distance of 800 miles.

In spring, this eagle will return to the Bay to hunt spawning fish along the many tributaries of the Bay.

Bald eagles build their nests in large trees near rivers or coasts. A typical nest is around 5 feet in diameter. Eagles often use the same nest year after year growing to the largest weighing two tons. (National Geographic)

Sticks placed in trees result in cylinder or cone shaped nests. Disk shaped nests are built on the ground or a tree branch which is nearly level. Bowl shaped nests occur where the tree trunk branches off into smaller upright branches.

http://www.wildlifetracking.org/index.shtml?project_id=349
Northern Harriers fly low over the ground when hunting.

They weave back and forth over fields and marshes as they watch and listen for small animals. They eat on the ground, and they perch on low posts or trees.

Northern Harriers breed in wide-open habitats ranging from Arctic tundra to prairie grasslands to fields and marshes. Their nests are concealed on the ground in grasses or wetland vegetation.
Breeding
Large, wetlands and grasslands habitats
- low, thick vegetation such as freshwater marshes
- lightly grazed meadows
- old fields across Canada and the northern United States

Pintails are a highly prized species by hunters.

Population Decline
- poor breeding
- long-term changes in habitat
- changes in farming practices

**Species:** Osprey

**Location:** Whitehall Bay, Annapolis, Maryland

Ospreys migrate south late each summer, heading to the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. They return to the Chesapeake Bay area in early **spring**, within days of their lifetime mate.

**About Woody:**

When Woody isn't fishing for menhaden found over the local oyster reefs he often fishes in the creeks off Whitehall Bay.

He builds very tall, sturdy nests made of bulky mass of sticks 5 feet in diameter. It is found near water and on top objects high in the air (telephone poles, channel markers).

**Human Threats:**

- Overfishing of prey by humans
- Hunting

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

**CBF Education Center:** Arthur Sherwood

http://www.cbf.org/ospreymap
Ossabaw

One of the most wide-ranging shorebirds in the world, the Whimbrel breeds in the Arctic in the eastern and western hemispheres, and migrates to South America, Africa, south Asia, and Australia.

Essential stopover sites allow whimbrels to refuel before the next leg of their journey.

Nesting

A shallow bowl on the ground, usually lined with leaves and grass.

It uses its long, down-curved bill to probe deep in the sand of beaches for invertebrates, but also feeds on berries and insects.

http://www.wildlifetracking.org/index.shtml?project_id=369

Some migrating Whimbrels make a nonstop flight of 4,000 km (2,500 miles) from southern Canada or New England to South America.

Species: Whimbrel (Adult)
Gender: Female
Release Date: 05/22/2013
Release Location: Bloody Marsh, St. Simons Island, Georgia
Last Location: 09/14/2014
Species: Peregrine Falcon
Life Stage: Juvenile
Gender: Female
Release Date: 05/31/2002
Last Location: 10/12/2004

Willow

The word "peregrine" means "wanderer" or "pilgrim," and Peregrine Falcons occur all over the world.

On average, southbound migration lasted 23 days and birds traveled 1,929 miles.

Nesting

Peregrine falcons do no nest building beyond a ritualized scraping of the nest ledge to create a depression in the sand, gravel or other substrate of the nest site.

Scrapes are about 9 inches in diameter and 2 inches deep.

Other sites include electricity transmission towers, quarries, silos, skyscrapers, churches, and bridges.

DANGER!
Of the 11 tracked birds:
7 flew into man-made structures
3 were killed in storms
1 was lost at sea

http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/peregrine_falcon/id
http://www.wildlifetracking.org/index.shtml?tag_id=8175a