

# Osprey Reintroduction and Tracking in Southeast Michigan

# Nests Identified on Huron River Watershed Spring 2014

- Walled Lake/Commerce
- Pontiac Lake/Waterford
- Highland/Clyde Rd.
- Highland/Duck Lake Rd.
- Milford
- Kensington Metropark
- Lyon Twp Water Tower
- Hartland
- Brighton/Hyne Rd.
- Brighton/Hilton Rd.
- Brighton/Downtown
- Green Oak Twp
- Hamburg
- Pinckney/Putnam Twp
- Northfield Twp/Whitmore Lake Rd.
- Ypsilanti
- Gibraltar/Woodruff Rd.
- Pte. Mouillee/Humphries Unit
- Pte. Mouillee/Roberts Rd.
- Estral Beach/Pt Sunlight Rd.



C09 hacked 1999 Kensington Metropark



Osprey in flight

- [Osprey -- the ultimate fisher.mp4](#)

























**Three chicks banded in Kensington  
Metropark near the Farm Center**







# HAZARDS

- Chemical
  - Heavy Metals
  - PCBs
- Physical
  - Fishing line
  - Baling twine
  - Plastic bags
  - Debris in water
- Lack of Protection (Migratory Bird Treaty Act)
  - Aquaculture
  - Perceived Threat







Fishing lure in talon



# Debris used in nest construction



- Marine nets
- Plastic bags
- Rope
- Fishing line
- Bottles
- Clothes hangers
- Etc, etc, etc!



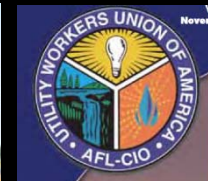
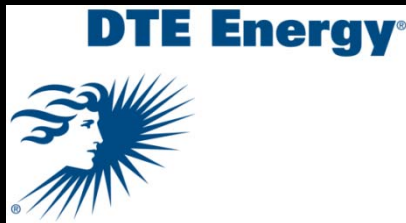




# OSPREY NESTING PLATFORM



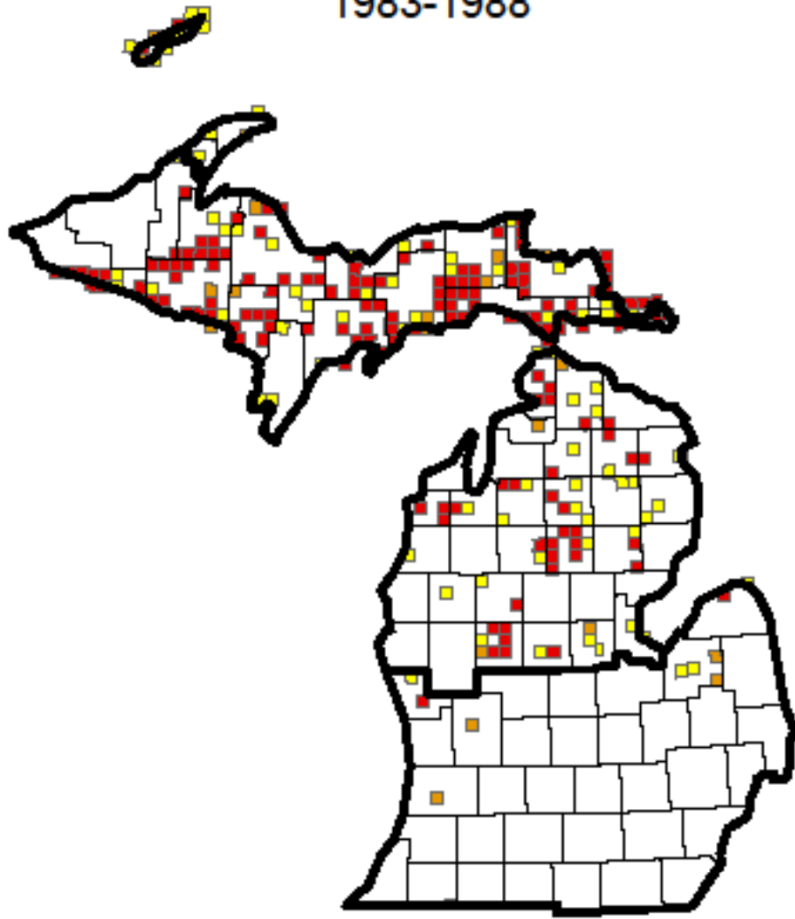
Problem: Osprey nest on the top of a DTE Energy utility pole  
Solution: Relocate to a new, safe nest made of an old utility pole with a platform built by a local Eagle Scout



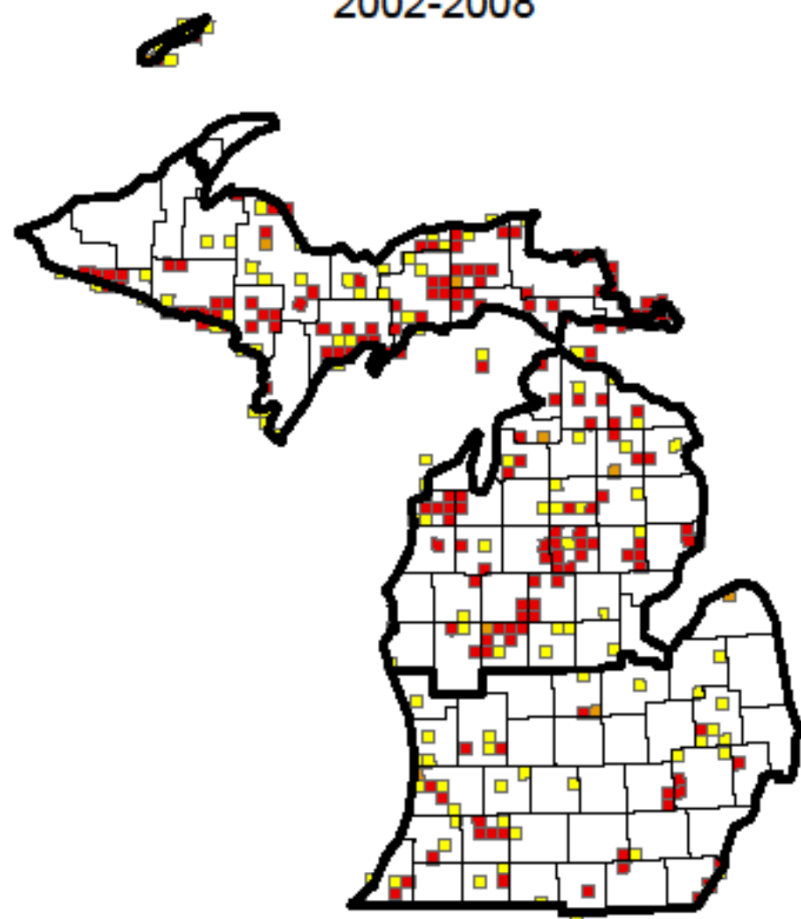





# Osprey

Atlas I  
1983-1988



Atlas II  
2002-2008



 Possible  Probable  Confirmed

2009. Kalamazoo Nature Center. Compiled using MBBA I and MBBA II data in Oblique Mercator Hotline Projection, on PLSS Township file provided by MIDNR.

0 30 60 120 180 Miles

Species mapped by Township/Range

# Michigan Osprey Footprints

- In 2013 three young males were outfitted with satellite tracking units. This is a first for Michigan Ospreys.
- Migration mapping provided by Movebank is available on [OWSEM.org](http://OWSEM.org)
- Independence
- Leroy
- Monroe Spark



# Movebank/Argos Data

Each satellite tagged Osprey's location is recorded and mapped on a regular basis.



Follow **Independence**'s adventures [here](#). "Indy" was tagged at Kensington MetroPark on 12 July 2013.

Jane Purslow photo, used with permission



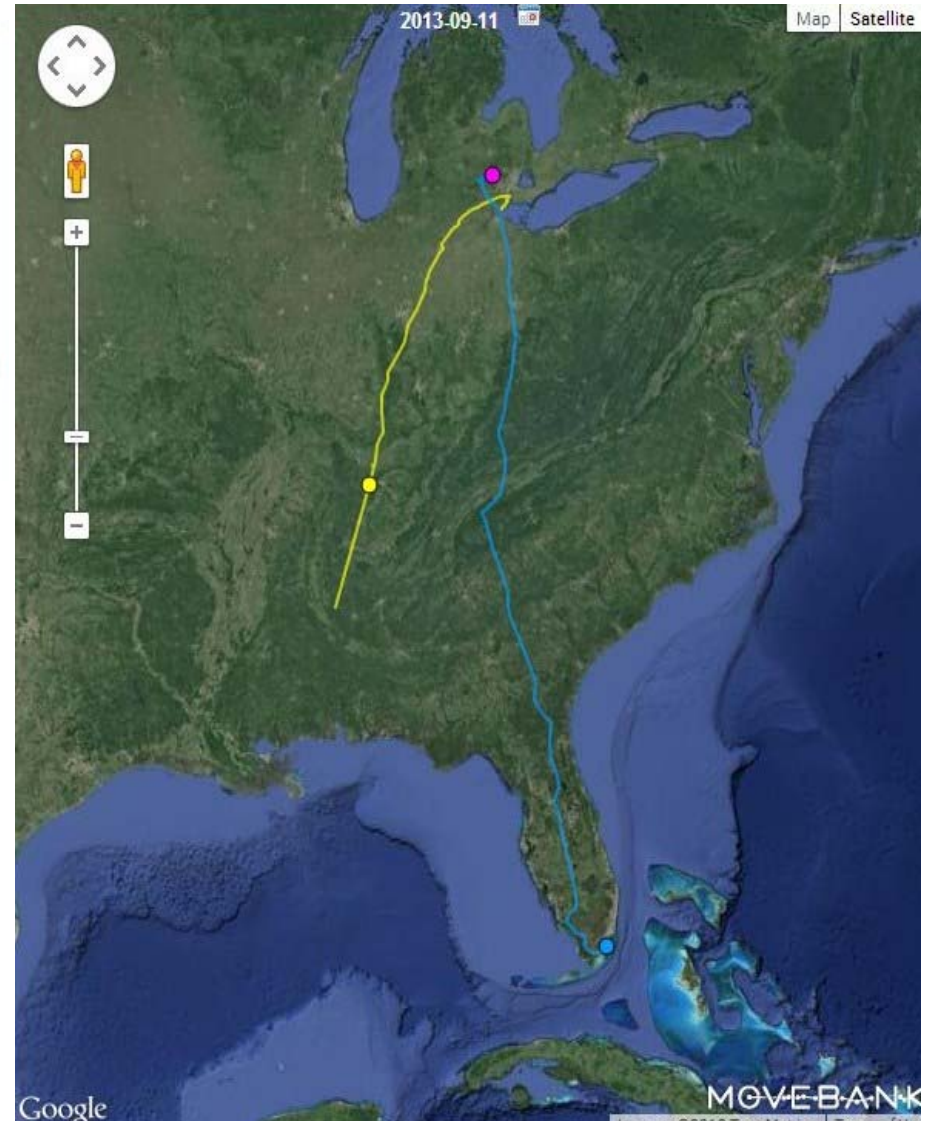
Follow **Leroy**'s adventures [here](#). Leroy was tagged at Pinckney on 18 July 2013.

Jane Purslow photo, used with permission



Follow **Monroe Spark**'s adventure's [here](#). "Sparky" was tagged at Estral Beach on 16 July 2013.

Bugsy Watson photo, used with permission



Track their migration at [www.owsem.org](http://www.owsem.org).

# Goal: 30 nesting pairs by 2020

## So how did we do in 2013?

- ❖ There were 50+ nests identified throughout the southern portion of the lower peninsula.
- ❖ There were 38 confirmed active nests in SE Michigan
  - 32 cell tower nests
  - 5 platform nests
  - 1 power line nest
  - 0 natural nest in a tree
  - 68 chicks counted
  - 35 chicks banded



# Osprey 1 Heron 0

August 26, 2013



**We appreciate the help and cooperation of all the following  
in this ongoing project.**

American Tower Corporation Crown Castle Towers Earthcom Skyline Services, LLC Clearlink  
Wireless DTE Energy Consumers Energy Wickham Tree Service Detroit Zoo  
Cell Tower Crews Newkirk Electric USFWS MDNR Kensington Metropark  
USDA Aphix OWSEM Deirdre Smith Karen Verhey Huron Valley Audubon

## **Photographers**

Jim Ridley Jim Kortge Al Fleming Greg Smith Stevie Kuroda  
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Special thanks to Sergej Postupalsky for 50 years of Osprey research

The many volunteers who tirelessly monitored and reported mating and nesting activities during  
the summers of 2012 and 2013

*Thank You!*





The harness for transmitter fitted onto Independence on July 12, 2013 at Kensington Metropark.

The harness straps for Monroe Spark's transmitter are sewn together on July 16, 2013.



Leroy, nesting atop a 200 ft cell tower in Pinckney, was fitted with his unit on July 18, 2013.

