



CONSERVE WILDLIFE

FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

Osprey Education and Coordination:

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey (CWF) seeks to install a high resolution, wireless, web-linked camera on an osprey nest at Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in Oceanville, NJ. The purpose of the camera will be to engage the public in osprey protection and to educate them about the challenges to osprey recovery. A live feed with sound will be broadcast on the internet during the nesting season for ospreys from March through August. It will give viewers access to the life history of ospreys including their behavior, reproduction, and diet during the nesting season. The video will be displayed inside Forsythe's new Visitors Center on a flat screen TV. It will also stream through Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ's website and will join our other web cams including the Duke Farms Eagle Cam and Peregrine Cam. CWF will develop an educational program that will be used to educate the public about ospreys, their threats, recovery efforts, and ways people can help.

Map of proposed camera installation location:



The camera will also be used to help identify the breeding pair of osprey by their leg bands. This information will help us determine their site fidelity, age, and migration routes. It will also be used to gain more useful information on the use of trash as nesting material and its link to their reproductive success. After discussing this proposal with biologists with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service we have learned that many other locations wish to install this type of nest camera. We will develop a detailed installation guide with

the tools and resources for other land managers and biologists to install this same type of system at other locations.

The development of an educational program will help viewers and future conservationists learn about ospreys and the challenges they face in the future. It will focus on osprey identification, habitat preferences, their historic decline (and why they need nesting platforms now), prey availability and links to reproductive success, and how people can help by reducing disturbance and monitoring nest sites.

Additionally, over the past few years we have recorded many new nesting structures for ospreys. Some of these structures have been placed in unsuitable habitat or are inadequate in how they were built. This requires more work by fixing problems that could have been avoided in the first place if the proper information was widely available. Since ospreys rely heavily on these structures to successfully raise young we think it very important that the general public can easily find this information. To do this we



Example of osprey camera in Montana.

believe that we must address several ongoing issues which include monitoring of the population by ground and aerial surveys, availability of suitable nesting platforms, and the sharing of tools and resources to better serve the population. CWF seeks to develop a working group of the diverse professional individuals currently engaged in osprey recovery in the state. This group will work together to develop recommendations on these issues and information that will be shared with the general public. The working group will also discuss other threats to ospreys like the impact of sea level rise from climate change. Many species groups in New Jersey benefit from a coordinated conservation effort, ospreys, in the midst of a remarkable recovery, require such an approach.

Goal:

- Increase awareness and protection of ospreys in New Jersey

Budget:

Osprey Nest Camera

Item	Description	Cost
Wireless video link	2.4 Ghz Digital Weatherproof video link with pan-tilt-zoom(PTZ) data control, 3 mile range, Video/audio cables, PTZ control panel	\$2,899
Mini microphone		\$30

High-resolution camera	520 line, 10X zoom, Pan-tilt-zoom, color camera, mounting bracket and power supply	\$899
Solar panel(s)/batteries	85-watt stand alone solar power system with battery and charge controller	\$850
DVR	4-Channel DVR w/ 500GB hard drive with internet access for remote viewing, control of PTZ, mouse & remote	\$698
Flat-screen TV	32" flat-screen TV	\$320
		\$5,696

Installation of camera, development of educational materials, planning of working group

Salary, benefits, and administrative costs

	Hours	
Habitat Program Manager (\$27.50/hour)	100	\$2,750.00
General and Administration (15% of total budget)		\$1,500.00

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: \$9,946.00

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