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CONSERVE WILDLIFE
FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

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HIGH-QUALITY PHOTOS AVAILABLE

**Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ to Replace
Osprey Platforms Lost in Superstorm Sandy**

Dozens of volunteers expected for Construction Day this Saturday, Jan. 19

TRENTON, NJ: JANUARY 15, 2013 - On Saturday, January 19, Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ (CWF) will host an osprey platform construction day from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area in Woodbine, New Jersey. Volunteers are invited to build new platforms to replace those lost or damaged in Superstorm Sandy. (The rain date is January 20.)

Constructing these platforms now will allow CWF time to install them before the start of the osprey nesting season in April. Ospreys mate for life and typically return to the same nest year after year.

“This pro-active approach will ensure that when ospreys return from their wintering areas in South America they have a nest to return to and raise young. The platforms that were occupied in 2012 and washed away are our top priority,” said Ben Wurst, CWF Osprey Project Manager.

Since Sandy slammed into the coast of New Jersey in late October, biologists with CWF have been actively surveying and assessing damage to habitat that wildlife needs to survive. Many osprey nesting platforms were right in the middle of the high winds and strong storm surge associated with Sandy. The majority of the platforms weathered the storm; others need repairs or must be replaced. We have already installed 5 new nesting platforms. Two platforms were installed on December 1st on Herring Island (N. Barnegat Bay) in an area of homes that sustained significant damage. The other three platforms were installed in the Wildwood area.

“From ospreys and bald eagles to piping plovers and red knots, Hurricane Sandy knocked down nests and destroyed vital habitat for many rare species,” said CWF Executive Director David Wheeler. “The outpouring of support from volunteers interested in post-Sandy relief efforts for rare wildlife has been very encouraging.”

Materials for the nesting platforms were generously donated by [Tri-County Building Supplies](#) in Pleasantville, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Brian Kushner, and The Home Depot of Manahawkin.

For companies or individuals interested in making a donation to sponsor a platform lost by Sandy, please contact Liz Silvernail at 609-292-3707 or via email at liz.silvernail@conservewildlifenj.org

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The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey is a nonprofit organization that helps protect New Jersey's rare species and their vanishing habitat through biological research, wildlife management, public education and community outreach. For more information, visit www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org.