

HAWK

Migration Studies



The Publication of the Hawk Migration Association of North America

Volume XXXIII, No. 1— September 2007

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK BY VIC BERARDI

Scanning The Ridge

Fall is one of my favorite times of year. Like most of you I like nothing better than sitting on a ridge and looking to the northern sky, straining my eyes for those tell-tale specks that we love so much. I have to say that I particularly love those colder late-season days when the chilly north wind might bring a Golden Eagle or Northern Goshawk, and the adult Sharp-shins are skimming the spruce tops, fresh from their boreal forest summer sojourn.



PHOTO: MAYNARD WHEELER

Here in New Hampshire -- as elsewhere in the east -- we are seeing dramatic increases in Cooper's Hawks and Merlins, both as nesters and migrants. Ospreys continue to expand their nesting range, with many choosing to take over heron nests in upland beaver pond rookeries. Bald Eagles are re-colonizing our larger lakes and our Peregrines are holding their own and seem stable. It's a different story with American Kestrels. They continue to vanish from our dwindling grasslands, and our handful of breeding Northern Harriers hang on tenuously. The Golden Eagle, although slowly increasing in the Canadian Maritimes to our north and a more frequent fall migrant here, has yet to recolonize the White Mountains.

Three years into the Raptor Population Index project we are close to publishing *The State of North American Birds of Prey* -- a pivotal tome co-edited by Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza -- that will summarize what we know about raptor population trends. See page 11 for a preview.

I am anxious to participate in the first RRF/HMANA Conference in September. An American Kestrel Symposium will likely answer many of our questions about this charismatic little falcon. See page 7 for a complete agenda for the conference. I hope to see many of you there.

We count because we care. We want to quantify and analyse because we are compelled to confirm our hunches (or prove wrong those of others). New challenges await. How are our raptors adapting to a changing climate? Will their migration patterns and breeding ranges change accordingly? On page 10 of this issue John Galluzzo explores some recent extralimital raptor reports (a natural follow-on to the article about White-tailed Hawk records in New England in the last issue).

I hope that the skies over your watch site are full this fall. Thank you for all that you do for our raptors.

Iain MacLeod
iain.macleod@nhnature.org

Hawk Migration Studies

Volume XXXIII, No.1, September 2007

Editor: Carolyn Hoffman

Design/Layout: Iain MacLeod

Front Cover Photo: Vic Berardi

Back Cover Photo: Jason Sodergren

In This Issue:

Scanning The Ridge

by Iain MacLeod..... 1

HMANA Officers, Directors, Committees and Staff

2

Welcomes and Introductions 2

Wind Turbine Guidelines

by Gil Randell..... 3

Wind Turbine Web of Worry

by Will Weber..... 4

U.S. Wind Power Ranking 5

HMANA/RRF Conference6-7

RPI Update

by Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza8-9

Monitoring Advisory Council

by Will Weber..... 9

Recent Extralimital Raptor Reports

by John Galluzzo..... 10

SNABP -- A Preview

by Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza..... 11-12

Eastern Flyway Report

by Seth Kellogg 13-24

Central Flyway Report

by Vic Berardi 25-39

Western Flyway Report

by Carolyn Hoffman..... 40-46

Gulf/Caribbean Report

by Eileen Muller Guerra 47-50

Pacific Flyway Report

by Fran McDermott 51-59

Data Use Policy 60

Membership Form 60

HawkCount..... 60