

# **ANNUAL OSPREY REPORT 2017 Survey Year**

**submitted to  
The California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
by  
Green Diamond Resource Company**

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## Introduction

In 2006, Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRCo) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) developed and began implementing an ownership-wide osprey consultation protocol for timber harvest plans (THPs).

In accordance with this consultation protocol, between March 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, GDRCo biologists conduct searches and status checks for historic and active osprey nests occurring within 0.25 mile of ground-based operations and 0.5 mile of helicopter-based operations expected to be active during the critical period for osprey. The critical period is March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> and extends to August 15<sup>th</sup> for occupied nests. Nest status need not be determined if ground-based operations within 0.25 mile of the nest or helicopter-based operations within 0.5 mile of the nest occur outside the critical period. If timber harvest operations commence between August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>, then a check for late-season occupancy of the nest is required. This check ensures that unfledged chicks are not present at the nest.

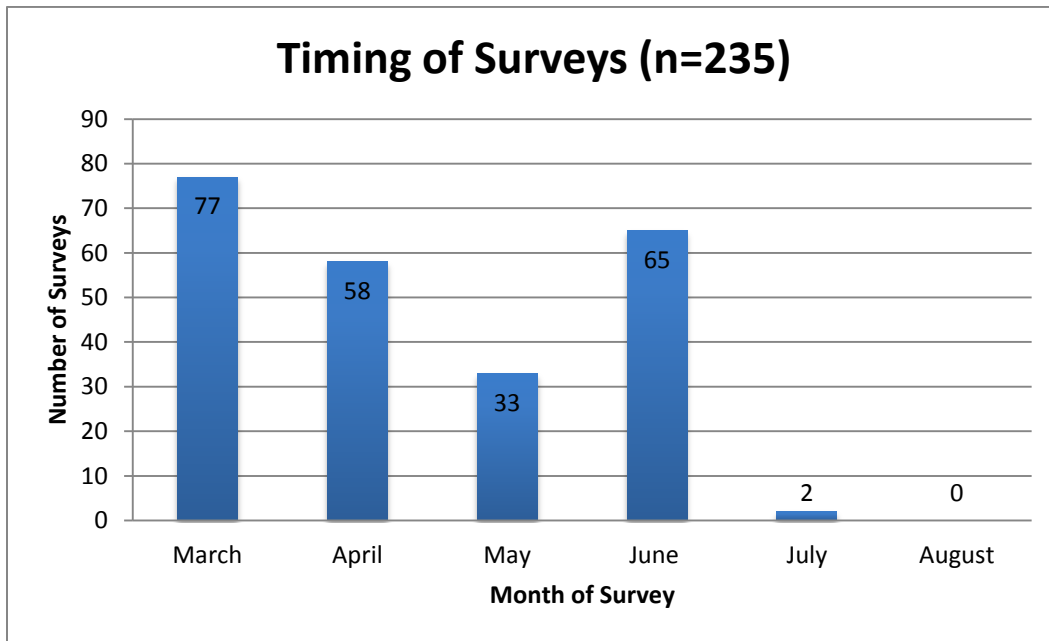
The ownership-wide consultation allows operations within 0.25 mile (but not within 500 feet) of occupied nests during the breeding season so long as operations occur as late in the breeding season as operationally feasible and encroach upon the 0.25 mile disturbance buffer and nest gradually. If operations are to occur within the 0.25 mile disturbance buffer during the breeding season, the nest must be monitored to determine if operations are adversely affecting the nesting osprey or their young.

This report summarizes the survey results for osprey nests covered by the consultation during 2017. An occupied nest is defined as a nest or nest tree used by an osprey pair during the current nesting season. An active nest is defined as a nest or nest tree used at least once during the three most recent nesting seasons. A tree may be considered an active nest tree even if it has lost all or a portion of its stick nest, provided that suitable substrate for rebuilding the nest remains. A historic nest is defined as a nest or nest tree used at some time in the past but is not currently occupied or active.

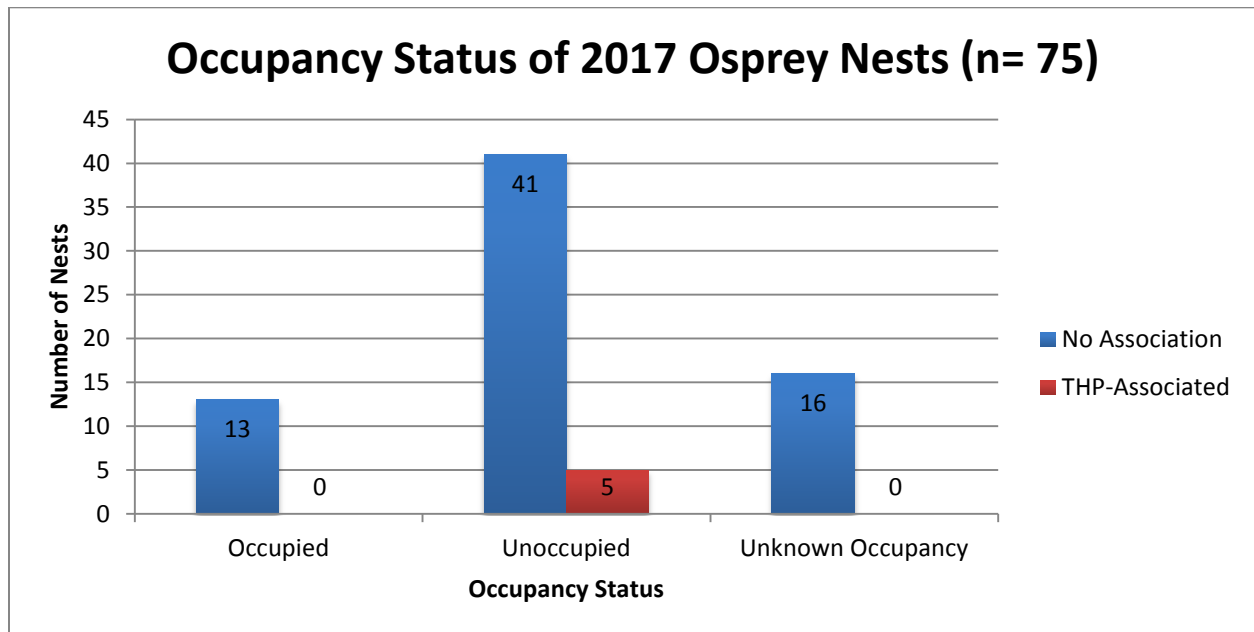
## Summary of Results

Seventy-five individual historic or active nests or nest trees were surveyed a total of 235 times in 2017 (Figure 1). Of the 75 nests surveyed, 13 nests were occupied, 46 were unoccupied, and 16 did not have sufficient data to determine occupancy status (Figure 2). Reproduction was confirmed at one of the 13 occupied sites (Table 1). However, surveys to confirm reproduction are only required when operations are planned within 0.25 mile of an occupied nest during the critical period. Therefore, reproductive surveys were not conducted at all occupied sites, and no inferences should be made regarding osprey productivity in 2017.

No helicopter-based THP operations occurred within 0.5 mile of historic or active osprey nests during the 2017 critical period. Three ground-based THPs with operations during the critical period occurred within 0.25 mile of 5 historic or active osprey nests (Table 2). Of the 5 THP-associated nest sites, all were determined to be unoccupied (Figure 2). No operations occurred within 0.25 mile of osprey nests where occupancy could not be determined. Refer to Table 2 for a complete summary of the status of the 2017 osprey nests and THP associations and Map 1 for the location of the nests and THP unit boundaries.



**Figure 1:** Timing of surveys conducted during the 2017 osprey critical period



**Figure 2:** Occupancy status of osprey nests surveyed in 2017

**Table 1.** 2017 occupied sites with survey results confirming reproduction

Site Name	THP	Occupancy Status	Survey Results
Cran #12	None	Occupied	6/20/2017: 2 adult osprey and 2 juveniles observed in nest

**Table 2.** 2017 summary of occupancy status and THP association by nest site

Site Name	THP with ground based operations within .25 mile of nest	Occupancy
Big #10	None	Unknown
Big #11	None	Unoccupied
Big #14	None	Unoccupied
Big #17	None	Unoccupied
Big #18	None	Occupied
Big #19	None	Unoccupied
Big #22	None	Unoccupied
Big #3	None	Unoccupied
Big #4	None	Unoccupied
Big #5	None	Unoccupied
Big #6	None	Unoccupied
Big #7	None	Unknown
Big #9	None	Unknown
Casino #1	None	Unoccupied
Casino #2	None	Unoccupied
Casino #3	None	Occupied
Casino #4	None	Occupied
Casino #5	None	Unoccupied
Casino #6	None	Unoccupied
Casino #7	None	Unoccupied
Casino #8	None	Occupied
Cran #1	None	Unoccupied
Cran #10	None	Unoccupied
Cran #12	None	Occupied
Cran #2	45-1503	Unoccupied
Cran #3	None	Occupied
Cran #5	None	Unknown
Cran #6	None	Unknown
Cran #8	None	Unoccupied
Cran #9	None	Unoccupied
Jac #10	None	Unoccupied
Jac #13	None	Unoccupied
Jac #18	None	Unoccupied
Jac #20	None	Unoccupied

Site Name	THP with ground based operations within .25 mile of nest	Occupancy
Jac #28	None	Occupied
Little Surp #1	None	Unknown
Little Surp #2	None	Unknown
M200 #2	None	Occupied
M200 #3	None	Unoccupied
M200 #4	None	Occupied
McGarv #1	None	Occupied
McGarv #2	None	Unoccupied
McGarv #3	None	Unknown
McGarv #4	None	Unoccupied
McGarv #5	None	Occupied
McGarv #6	None	Unknown
McKay #11	None	Unknown
McKay #4	None	Unoccupied
McKay #5	19-1601	Unoccupied
McKay #6	19-1601	Unoccupied
OH #1	None	Unoccupied
OH #14	None	Unoccupied
OH #18	None	Unoccupied
OH #19	None	Unoccupied
OH #2	None	Unoccupied
OH #20	None	Unoccupied
OH #25	None	Unoccupied
OH #26	None	Unoccupied
OH #29	None	Occupied
OH #3	None	Unoccupied
OH #30	None	Occupied
S12 #2	None	Unknown
S12 #3	None	Unknown
Salm #14	14-1403	Unoccupied
Salm #22	14-1403	Unoccupied
Surp #1	None	Unoccupied
Surp #2	None	Unoccupied
Surp #3	None	Unoccupied
Tarup #1	None	Unknown
Tarup #2	None	Unoccupied
Tarup #3	None	Unknown
Tarup #4	None	Unoccupied
Tarup #5	None	Unknown
Tectah #1	None	Unknown
Wilson #1	None	Unoccupied