

# **ANNUAL OSPREY REPORT 2024 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 (CDFW) 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.

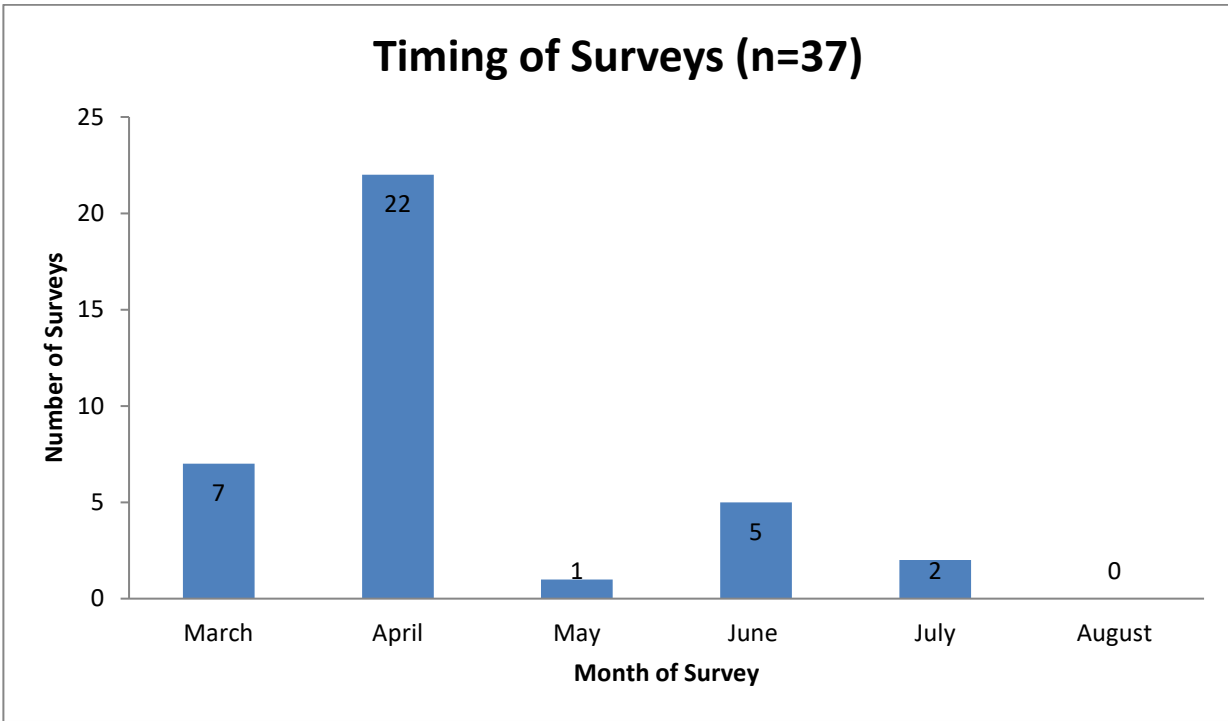
This report summarizes the survey results for osprey nests covered by the consultation during 2024. An occupied nest is defined as a nest or nest tree used by an osprey pair during the current nesting season. An active nest is defined as a nest or nest tree used at least once during the three most recent 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

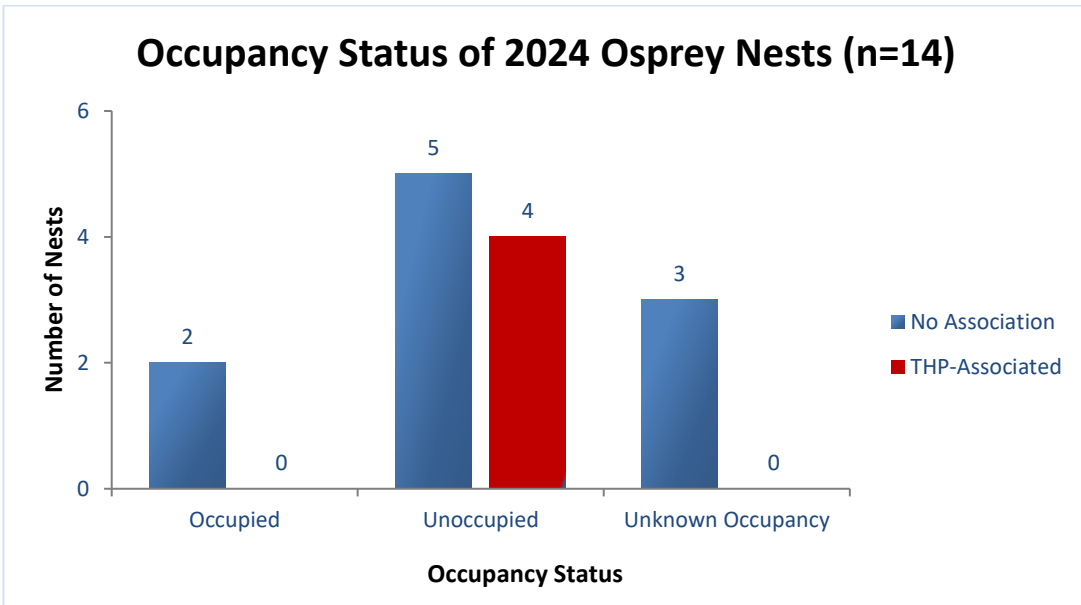
Fourteen individual historic or active nests or nest trees were surveyed a total of 37 times in 2024 (Figure 1). Of the 14 nests surveyed, two nests were occupied, nine were unoccupied, and three had unknown occupancy (Figure 2). Surveys to confirm reproductive success were not conducted. Surveys to confirm reproduction are only required when operations are planned within 0.25 mile of an occupied nest during the critical period. Therefore, reproductive surveys are not conducted at all occupied sites in a given season, and no inferences should be made regarding osprey productivity.

No helicopter-based THP operations occurred within 0.5 mile of historic or active osprey nests during the 2024 critical period. Two ground-based THPs with operations during the critical period occurred within 0.25 mile of four osprey nests (Table 1). All four of the THP-associated nest sites 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 2024 osprey nests and THP associations and Map 1 for the nest location and THP unit boundaries.



**Figure 1: Timing of surveys conducted during the 2024 osprey critical period.**



**Figure 2: Occupancy status of osprey nests surveyed in 2024.**

**Table 1.** Summary of occupancy status and THP association by nest site, 2024.

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Ground-based operations within 0.25 mile during critical period</b>	<b>State ID</b>	<b>Survey Occupancy</b>
Ambrose #3	None	None	Unknown
Big #3	47-2303	1-23-00124-HUM	Unoccupied
Big #10	47-2303	1-23-00124-HUM	Unoccupied
Big #11	47-2303	1-23-00124-HUM	Unoccupied
Howe Creek	None	None	Occupied
Salt #3	None	None	Unoccupied
Salt #4	None	None	Unoccupied
Salt #5	None	None	Occupied
Salt #6	70-2001	1-21-00005-DEL	Unoccupied
Salt #7	None	None	Unoccupied
Surp #1	None	None	Unoccupied
Tube #1	None	None	Unoccupied
Wilson #3	None	None	Unknown
Wilson #4	None	None	Unknown

# Map 1. Osprey Nests Within 0.25 Miles of 2024 Harvest Units



1 in = 5 miles

