

G o l d e n   G a t e   R a p t o r   O b s e r v a t o r y

# *Season Summary 2011*

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VOLUNTEERS • HAWKWATCH • BANDING  
TELEMETRY • OUTREACH • DONORS



*Intern Brittney Wendell keeps alert at Hawk Blind for hawks that may fly into her nets.*

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## GOLDEN GATE RAPTOR OBSERVATORY

The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory's mission is to inspire the preservation of birds of prey. Our business is to monitor and study the bird of prey migration along the central California coast, particularly at the Marin Headlands, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. We are dedicated to the conservation of raptors both through careful data collection *and* through involving the public in every aspect of our research.

The GGRO is a program of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service, and is made up of 297 community volunteers and a small staff.

*GGRO Season Summary 2011* written by Allen Fish, Buzz Hull, Brittney Wendell, & Katie Dunbar

Cover illustration by Siobhan Ruck; other illustrations by Katie Dunbar

Compiled by Jill Harley and published by the

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Cover Illustration: *This adult Red-tailed Hawk was banded at Hawk Blind on December 3, 2011, then brought up to Hawk Hill for release so the hawkwatchers could get an up-close look at its plumage.*

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## G G R O S T A F F

ALLEN FISH, GGRO DIRECTOR • BUZZ HULL, RESEARCH DIRECTOR • JILL HARLEY, PROJECT COORDINATOR

2011 INTERNS: KATIE DUNBAR • MEGAN MAYO • ROBYN SMITH • BRITTNEY WENDELL

# I N T R O D U C T I O N

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During 2009-2010, while we were incredibly busy at GGRO due to our 25th anniversary celebrations and road closures, a small group of GGRO banders did something fairly incredible. Here in late 2011, I want to slow down and acknowledge their accomplishment, which in many ways sets the GGRO on its newest path.

Jean Perata, Dick Horn, Dian Langlois, and Nancy Brink set up a series of objectives with which to evaluate their fellow banding leaders. They wrote the Siteleader Manual and devised a series of exams – a written test, a field evaluation, and a lab practical. They used as a guidepost the GGRO Bander Code of Ethics, which honors raptor health and safety, and the collection of accurate data. All of this came together under a belief that holding a wild raptor was both a rare opportunity and an enormous responsibility, and that our group could and would – through recertification – raise the bar on their own field skills.

Forty-eight banding leaders have taken the tests and been recertified through 2011 – a major accomplishment. And you might be wondering, why does this constitute a new path for GGRO? This isn't the first time we've evaluated the work of volunteers. But this time, the magnitude of the job was immense and required a great deal of extra time to prepare and execute. And ultimately I was most impressed by this: seeing volunteers ask volunteers to take their work seriously enough to put their egos aside, and to allow their skills to be evaluated and critiqued.

In November 2011, inspired by our banders, I asked volunteer GGRO hawkwatchers to participate in a classroom evaluation of their individual abilities. I used in-flight photos to quiz volunteers on raptor species, ages, and sexes. It's an imperfect system – just think of the information you gain from watching a bird's flight behavior that you don't see in a still photo – but we have a brave group of hawk counters who have already been tested, and they are ready for more.

So, now we are three years into this process, and I want to thank the Bander Recertification Committee for starting us down the path of evaluating individual volunteers, and for making the process fair, focused, and transparent. We are a better organization for your leadership. Also, thank you to the entire volunteer staff – to banders and hawkwatchers – for embracing this process, a unique and sometimes unsettling opportunity to be evaluated in your field skills.

As always, the GGRO is made possible by the great relationship between the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service, and we are grateful to have both organizations and so many great colleagues on our side.



ALLEN FISH  
afish@parksconservancy.org



# V O L U N T E E R S

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Sam Abercrombie  
Amanda Ailand  
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Caryn Ansel  
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Kendra Armer  
Michael Armer  
Jennifer Armer  
Carlo Arreglo  
Stefanie Arthur  
Diane Bahr  
Carol Baird  
Bill Barnaby  
Anna Barr  
Eddie Bartley  
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Larry Beard  
Marita Beckum  
Tim Behr  
Maxine Berg  
Ronald Berg  
Michael Berry  
Ardith Betts  
Jessica Blickley  
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Robert Blumberg  
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Robyn Boothby  
Brandi Bosch  
Carroll Botvinick  
Randy Breaux  
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Johnny Brown  
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Shannon Burke  
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Caryl Carr  
Chennie Castañon  
Sally Cedarblade  
Linda Chambers  
Rich Cimino  
Jim Clausen  
Terry Coddington  
Martha Conant

Roger Conant  
Kay Conneely  
Tom Conneely  
Gerald Connell  
Lewis Cooper  
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Dennis Davison  
Pamela Dayton  
Rachel del Rio  
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Russ DeLong  
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Janine DeMartini  
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Alane Gray  
David Gregoire

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Keith Gress  
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Jen Haynes  
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Stacy Martinelli  
Megan Mayo  
Wendy McConachie  
Jaime McConachie  
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Tara McIntire  
Ewen McKechnie  
Raleigh McLemore  
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Joe Medley  
Horacio Mena  
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Steve Miller  
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Tom Moutoux  
Mikiye Nakanishi  
Jennifer Nazzal  
Gayle Newman  
Angela Newsham

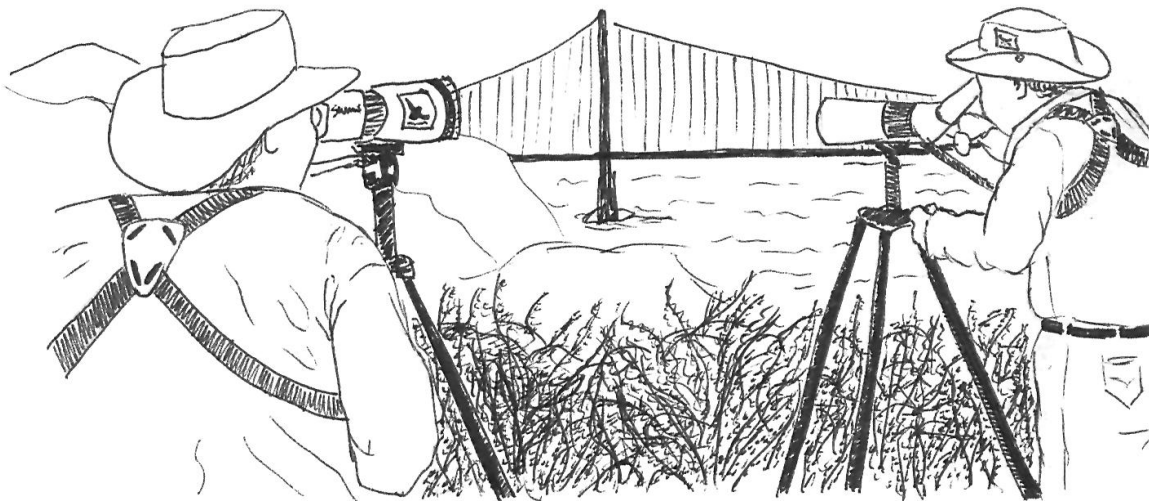
# V O L U N T E E R S

Chris Nikitas  
 Craig Nikitas  
 John Odell  
 Brian O'Laughlin  
 Sammy Oliva  
 Michelle Oltman  
 Claire O'Neil  
 Steve O'Neill  
 Marissa Ortega-Welch  
 Pat Overshiner  
 Elizabeth Palmer  
 Gary Palmer  
 Robert Palmer  
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 Janine Payne  
 Jean Perata  
 Ralph Pericoli  
 Matthew Perry  
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 Terrie Schweitzer  
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 Robert Sexton  
 James Shea  
 Karen Smith  
 Robyn Smith  
 Brian Smucker

David Snipper  
 Tate Snyder  
 Curtis Snyder  
 Mara Solomon  
 Sandrine Soulet  
 Patricia Spencer  
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 Skye Standish  
 Polly Strahan  
 Beth Sturgeon  
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 Jennifer Sullivan  
 Julie Sykes  
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 Janet Thiessen  
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 Laura Thomas  
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 John Ungar  
 Linda Vallee  
 Douglas Vaughan

Nick Villa  
 Erika Walther  
 Noreen Weeden  
 Marion Weeks  
 Emily Weil  
 Carol Weinstein  
 Dave Wells  
 Brittney Wendell  
 Barbara Westree  
 Peter White  
 Jeffry Wilkinson  
 Sarah Willbrand  
 Harvey Wilson  
 David Wimpfheimer  
 Bright Winn  
 Kathy Wolf  
 Elizabeth Wommack  
 Roderick Woo  
 David Wood  
 Jim Yampolsky  
 Laura Young



*Hawkwatchers Steve Miller and David Sexton tally raptors over the Golden Gate.*

# H A W K W A T C H

## RAPTOR-SIGHTINGS IN THE MARIN HEADLANDS DURING AUTUMN\*

	2011 Season		Past 10-Year Average (2000-2009*)	
	Sightings	Hawks/Hour	Sightings	Hawks/Hour
<i>Hours</i>	439		503	
Turkey Vulture	6,447	14.69	9,176	18.27
Osprey	57	0.13	105	0.21
White-tailed Kite	74	0.17	92	0.18
Bald Eagle	9	0.02	5	0.01
Northern Harrier	335	0.76	751	1.49
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2,622	5.98	4,183	8.33
Cooper's Hawk	1,805	4.11	2,427	4.83
Northern Goshawk	0	0.00	1	0.00
Red-shouldered Hawk	248	0.57	464	0.92
Broad-winged Hawk	202	0.46	123	0.25
Swainson's Hawk	13	0.03	6	0.01
Red-tailed Hawk	7,529	17.16	9,410	18.73
Ferruginous Hawk	18	0.04	22	0.04
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0.00	7	0.01
Golden Eagle	9	0.02	20	0.04
American Kestrel	358	0.82	540	1.08
Merlin	166	0.38	172	0.34
Peregrine Falcon	264	0.60	199	0.40
Prairie Falcon	2	0.00	7	0.01
Unidentified	1,011	2.30	1,292	2.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,169</b>	<b>48.24</b>	<b>29,001</b>	<b>57.72</b>

\*2010 not included in 10-year average since counts were made from two locations. See *Season Summary 2010* for more details.

Spanning August 15th to December 4th, our 2011 count season showed no raptor species in record high nor in record low numbers. What was superlative in 2011 was the fog. From mid-August through September, fog kept us off Hawk Hill for 22 days – half the potential count days. Fortunately, October winds blew the fog out, and November was one of the most rain-free in California's history. The net result was that we counted for 439 hours during the 2011 season, the lowest number of total hawkwatching hours in GGRO's history.

Four raptor species dropped in 2011 compared to previous ten-year averages: Golden Eagle and Northern Harrier (both 50%); and Red-shouldered Hawk and Osprey (both 62%). The Osprey dip might be most easily explained, as 90 percent of our Osprey migrate during August-September. In other words, lots of Osprey flew by while we were counting fog drips. Two species stood out for their high numbers: Peregrine Falcon (50% higher than average) and Broad-winged Hawk (84%). In fact, the Broadwings out-paced the Red-shoulder numbers well into October. Not bad for a species that isn't known to nest in the western US!

- ALLEN FISH

**D A Y L E A D E R S**

TIM BEHR • LEWIS COOPER • DENNIS DAVISON • ALLEN FISH • JOSHUA HAIMAN  
 JULIAN HYDE • DAVID JESUS • MARY KENNEY • FRAN McDERMOTT  
 HORACIO MENA • KIM MEYER • BOB POWER • JAMES RAIVES • LAURY ROSENTHAL

# B A N D I N G

## RAPTORS BANDED IN THE MARIN HEADLANDS DURING AUTUMN

	2011 (Aug 15, 2011-Jan 5, 2012)	Annual Average 1992-2010*	Totals 1983-2011
Northern Harrier	2	11	259
Sharp-shinned Hawk	494	477	10,078
Cooper's Hawk	444	565	12,450
Northern Goshawk	0	0	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	15	14	320
Broad-winged Hawk	0	1	22
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	9
Red-tailed Hawk	187	322	8,298
Ferruginous Hawk	0	0	2
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	5
Golden Eagle	0	0	2
American Kestrel	56	55	1,214
Merlin	60	27	582
Peregrine Falcon	3	4	80
Prairie Falcon	2	2	38
Eurasian Kestrel	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>33,365</b>

\* 1992 through 2010 are used for this comparison due to similarity of methods and effort between those years and 2011.

The 2011 banding season started with a record-setting number of foggy cold days and very few birds banded. Through the end of September we had serious concerns that we might be working on a record low year.

October brought both good weather to the Headlands and better numbers of birds to our nets, enabling us to finish the season with a nearly respectable 1,263 birds banded. After a 2010 season in which we saw and banded very few Redtails in the second peak, we had a better second peak in 2011. Our final Redtail banding total of 187 was much improved over the modest 115 banded in 2010. Nine of the Redtails were in adult plumage, a great improvement over the two adults we banded in 2010. We banded 60 Merlins in 2011, just two below our record for the species, set in 2009. This was the first season in which we banded more Merlins than Kestrels.

Two long-time dayleaders stepped back from those responsibilities and it took three new dayleaders to replace them. 17 apprentice banders stayed the course for the 2011 season and made good progress as they experienced a few more birds than in 2010.

- BUZZ HULL

## D A Y L E A D E R S

ANNE ARDILLO • MIKE ARMER • EDDIE BARTLEY • MARC BLUMBERG • RANDY BREAUX  
NANCY BRINK • RUSS DELONG • CLAIRE GALLAGHER • BUZZ HULL • JOSH HULL  
DAVID JESUS • MAMIKO KAWAGUCHI • JOHN KEANE • CRAIG NIKITAS • BETH WOMMACK

# T E L E M E T R Y

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## JUVENILE RED-TAILED HAWKS RADIOTRACKED IN 2011

Name	Active Tracking	Post-season Tracking	Net Direction	Last Known Location	Net Distance from Headlands
Coco	Nov 3 – 9	Early Jan 2012	South	Crystal Springs Reservoir	21 miles
Diana	Nov 14 – 21	Early Jan 2012	North	Laguna de Santa Rosa	45 miles

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“Coco,” our 29th radiotracked juvenile Red-tailed Hawk, was trapped, banded, and tagged on November 3, 2011. He was released near the base of Hawk Hill, where we watched him soar out over Kirby Cove in the drizzling fog. He then spent the rest of the day moving through southern Marin County and settled for the night at Ring Mountain in Tiburon, where he was relocated by Phil Capitolo and Lorri Gong the next morning. By mid-morning Coco started flying, and he headed around the north side of Mt. Tamalpais. He then proceeded down the coast through Bolinas and into San Francisco, where he landed less than a mile from Twin Peaks – where Larry Beard and Robyn Smith had been monitoring his signal all day. On November 5, Coco left Twin Peaks and headed south, flying east of San Bruno Mountain and settled in at San Andreas Lake. From November 6-9, Coco remained on the west side of the lake, making only short, local flights – it seemed he had found his winter home. Even though we left Coco on November 9, several trackers returned repeatedly to the area and through December 31, Coco remained in the vicinity of San Andreas Lake. In early January, Lorri Gong found Coco’s roost was about 3 miles south at Crystal Springs Reservoir. Coco was our first ever “Lake Bird.”

“Diana the Huntress,” our 30th juvenile Red-tailed Hawk, was trapped, banded, and tagged on November 9, 2011. She was released from Hawk Hill and immediately started flying north. The team raced to keep up with her as she passed quickly through Marin County. Phil and Mike Hall headed to Mt. Burdell where they picked up a strong signal coming from the northwest. They lost it quickly, around 4PM, and decided Diana had settled down for the evening. On the morning of November 10, Phil and Ron successfully met up with Diana, first with a visual in Two Rock near Petaluma, and again later in the day as she flew northwest following the riparian corridor of Laguna de Santa Rosa near Sebastopol. From November 1–15, only local movement was recorded from Diana. On November 16, Phil and Megan Mayo walked a half mile into the Laguna de Santa Rosa Preserve, off of Sanford Road, and were greeted by Diana as she flew directly above them and perched on a telephone pole. She took off once more and finally perched in an old oak tree nearby. Trackers frequently returned to the area and found she remained in the preserve through early January 2012.

- BRITTNEY WENDELL & KATIE DUNBAR

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## T E L E M E T R Y L E A D E R S

LARRY BEARD • MAXINE BERG • PHIL CAPITOLO  
ANN GREINER • BILL JAMES • LYNN JESUS • CHERYL KRAYWINKEL  
JAMES RAIVES • LIBBY ROUAN • BARB WESTREE

# O U T R E A C H

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There was a moment on Hawk Hill in October 2011 that I will never forget. I was watching the skies above Rodeo Lagoon when my partner pointed out a dark, muscular falcon flapping hard right toward us, maybe a few hundred yards out. I saw that it would pass right by GGRO Intern Megan Mayo, who was teaching a group of kindergartners from Marin Horizons School on the middle platform. From two hundred feet away, I yelled “Megan! Peregrine!” Megan wheeled, and her class of thirty kids jumped to their feet, just as the Peregrine cleared the hilltop thirty feet away.

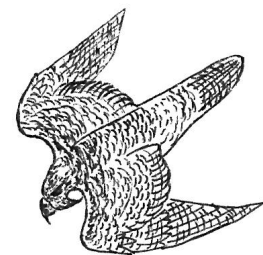
And then, seemingly from nowhere, a second Peregrine, an adult, crashed the scene. It grazed the first Peregrine, a juvenile, with a short stoop. In a sudden direction change to avoid getting hit, the younger Peregrine flew right over the school kids’ heads and gently crashed into a pine at the west end of Hawk Hill. It seemed to linger among the trees for safety while the persistent adult, possibly the territorial Golden Gate female, circled the forest, yelling *kek-kek-kek*. Within a minute the young falcon emerged from the pines and flapped hard for the Golden Gate and San Francisco. The adult charged after it, flapping and kekking like crazy. In about twenty seconds, both disappeared, mere falcon-dots in the southern sky. Five minutes later, we all remembered to breathe.

Three months later, I can run this two-minute scene like a film loop in my head. I wonder if those kids can. Did they tell their parents about it that night? Did they know that viewing such a falcon interaction happens once in a decade? Maybe a lifetime? I thought to write about this here on the “Outreach” page because I’m not sure that any article in any magazine, any blog-posting, any radio or TV news segment, or prepared raptor class could have a fraction of the impact of that moment.

How do you make Outreach like that happen? It’s all about time outside. For our families and our classes. For ourselves. An article in the SF Bay Bird Observatory newsletter about 20 years ago said it perfectly, “The more time you spend outside in wild places, the better chance you will be there when it happens.” What is “it?” Doesn’t matter. That’s the great thing about being outside: something always happens. And that’s what changes people.

Many people were changed by their time atop Hawk Hill this autumn – hearing identification seminars by our Hawk Talk docents, or seeing a banded raptor released by our banding docents. My great thanks to the 17 docents listed below who talked to an estimated 5,000 people on Hawk Hill last fall.

As always, we had great audiences with a variety of institutions and groups, both on and off Hawk Hill in 2011: Aim High, American Birding Association, Americorps, Bay Area Discovery Museum, East Bay Regional Park Junior Rangers, Elder Hostel, Environmental Forum of Marin, Friends of Five Creeks, Habitat Restoration Team, Head-Royce School Bay Ecology Class, Lindsay Museum Docents, Menlo Park Rotary, North American Banding Council, North Fork Association, Portola Valley Middle School, Prospect-Sierra School, Redwood Retirement Home, REI Corte Madera, San Francisco State University, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, Sonoma State University Wildlife Class, Trails Forever, Trust for Public Land, UC Davis Raptor Class, UC Davis Wildlife Society, Wildlife Society Western Section, and the William Kent Society.



- ALLEN FISH

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## D O C E N T S

EDDIE BARTLEY • RANDY BREAUX • DENNIS DAVISON • TOM DELEBO • KATIE DUNBAR • ANASTASIA ENNIS  
ANN KOSITSKY • CHARLES MASSEN • MEGAN MAYO • CRAIG NIKITAS • PAT OVERSHINER • SIOBHAN RUCK  
ROBYN SMITH • DENISE VILLA • NICK VILLA • BRITTNEY WENDELL • NICK WHELAN

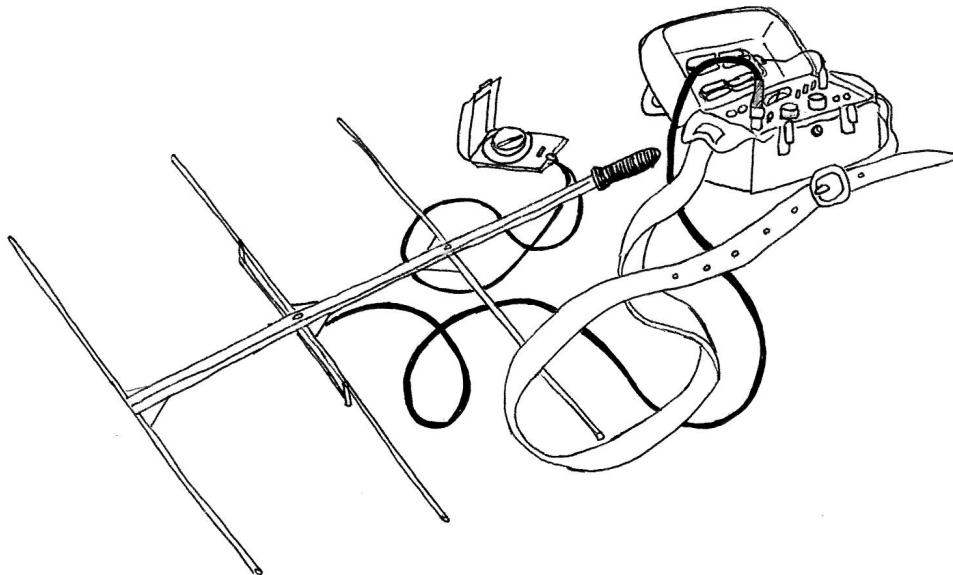
# D O N O R S

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Cheryl Abel  
Rachel Albright  
Robert Allen  
George & Stephanie Almeida  
Anonymous  
Caryn & Joe Ansel  
Marilyn Armbruster  
Kendra Armer  
Michael Armer  
Loretta Armstrong

William Bianco  
Linda Biscoe  
Jessica Blickley  
Carl & Jean Blom  
Robert & Marion Blumberg  
Bill & Jennifer Bollinger  
John & Olive Borgsteadt  
Dix & Didi Boring  
Heather Borman  
Anthony Brake

Shirley Carson  
John Caulfield  
Sally Cedarblade  
Shelley & John Chesley  
Al Christie  
Terry & Zeo Coddington  
Joanna Cohen  
Sally Cole  
Ron Colwell  
Huguette Combs



*The tools of a telemetrist: Yagi antenna with receiver and compass (not pictured: GPS unit, cell phone, pager, datasheets, clipboard, ready-for-anything attitude).*

Paul Babwin & Karen Bell  
Diane Bahr  
Chloe Banks  
Bill Barnaby  
Juliana Barr  
Anna Barr  
Mr. & Mrs. Reg Barrett  
Mai-Liis & Donald Bartling  
Linda Becker  
Marita Beckum  
Dr. Catherine Bell  
Sandra Berggren  
Anne Bernstein  
Ardith Betts

Max Brier  
Nancy Brink  
Johnny Brown  
Phyllis Browning  
Jean Burke  
Shannon Burke  
Davida Bushner  
Michael Butler  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Camp  
Julia Camp  
Hugh & Pearl Campion  
Sharon Carrillo &  
Merlie Sandagon  
Caryl Carr & David Presotto

Katherine Compagno  
Roger & Martha Conant  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Connell  
Lewis Cooper  
Marilyn Cooper  
Kanit Cottrell  
Reese & Kathleen Cutler  
Ludek Dadok  
Mr. & Mrs. Jon d'Alessio  
Anne Darragh & David Ford  
Dennis Davison &  
Jean Perata  
Mary Delapa  
Dr. Tom Delebo

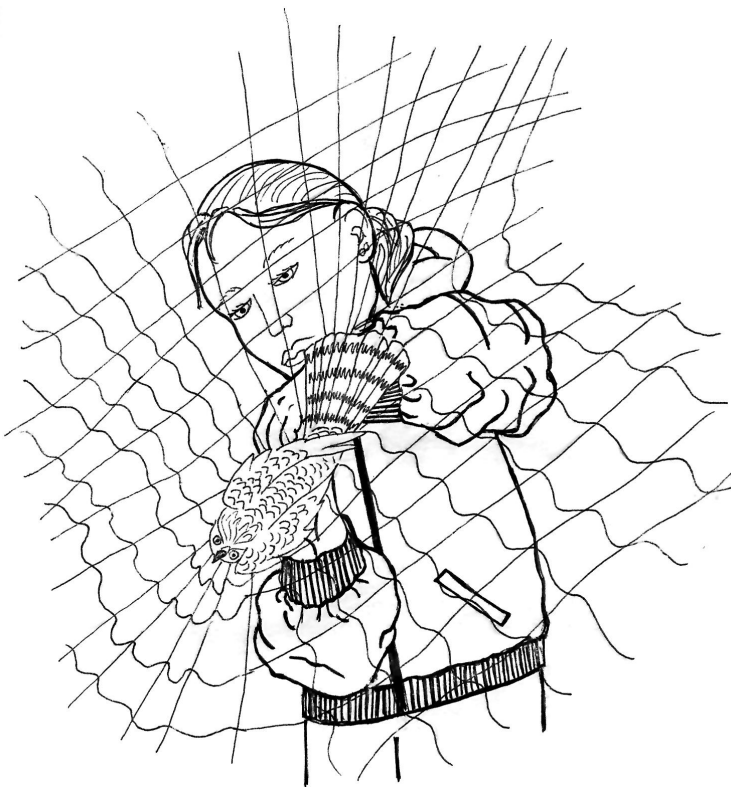
# D O N O R S

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Janine DeMartini  
 Karen DeMello  
 Licia DeMeo  
 Charles & Leslie Dicke  
 David Driggs  
 Steve Dykes  
 Wade Eakle  
 Peter Ehrlich  
 Holly Eliot  
 Robert Elliott  
 Robert Engel  
 Richard Engle &  
     Paula Horowitz  
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 Janeann Erickson  
 Natalee Ernstrom  
 Norval Fairman  
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 Virginia Fifield  
 Amy Jo Fillin

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 Mary Anne Flett  
 Gayle Fuetsch  
 Kathleen Gadway  
 Leo & Jane Gaspardone  
 Kris Geiger  
 Valinda Gillis  
 Kevin Gilmartin &  
     Barbara Bessey  
 Derek Girman  
 Grant Gladman  
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 Marisol Gonzalez  
 Cindy Goral & Jerry Scharf  
 Jim & Ruth Gravanis  
 Alane Gray  
 Dorothy Gregor  
 Earl Gress  
 Keith Gress  
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 Michael Hall  
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 Judy Harris  
 John Harris  
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 Jennifer Haynes  
 Kathleen Hazelton-Leech  
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 Frederick Heitkamp, Jr.  
 Pete Heller  
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 Cyril Juanitas  
 Derry & Charlene Kabcenell  
 Debbie Kahn  
 Benjamin Kaplan  
 Judy Kaufman  
 Mamiko Kawaguchi  
 Susan Kelly  
 Nancy Kittle  
 Leslie Koenig  
 Robin Kojima &  
     Teresa Renaker  
 Ann Kositsky  
 Allison Kozak  
 Cheryl Kraywinkel



*Bander Ari La Porte extracts a juvenile Sharp-shinned Hawk  
 from an upright net.*

# D O N O R S

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Julia Kringel  
Lori Lambertson  
Shelby LaMotte  
Barbara Lancaster  
Owen & Eva-lynn Leibman  
Mardi Leland  
Winifred Lennihan  
Peter Leveque  
Allison Levin  
Pam Lewis  
Penny Lewis  
Marie & Barry Lipman  
Kirsten Liske  
David Loeb  
Lynn MacDonald  
Chris Macintosh  
David & Lynne Madison  
Elizabeth Madriz  
Ron Mallory  
Nancy Martin



Charles Massen  
Maureen McCormick  
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Sharon Solomon  
Dr. Sheila Sousa  
Patricia Sparacino  
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Margaret Stanley  
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 Penelope Watson  
 Mary & Roman Watt  
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 Linda Vallee  
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     Stephen Blossom  
 David Wells  
 Peter White  
 Nancy Willard  
 Bright Winn  
 Kathleen Winslow  
 Kathy Wolf

## **IN HONOR**

- of Jaclyn De Santis  
 Pete Triem

# NUMBER OF RAPTORS BANDED 1983-2011, MARIN HEADLANDS\*

	1983-2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Northern Harrier	208	0	20	15	5	8	1	2	259
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5,992	676	767	583	646	558	362	494	10,078
Cooper's Hawk	7,964	686	829	1,048	504	451	524	444	12,450
Northern Goshawk	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	213	9	27	24	17	13	2	15	320
Broad-winged Hawk	14	3	3	0	0	2	0	0	22
Swainson's Hawk	3	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	9
Red-tailed Hawk	6,536	121	381	452	280	226	115	187	8,298
Ferruginous Hawk	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Rough-legged Hawk	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
Golden Eagle	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
American Kestrel	753	63	90	59	38	73	82	56	1,214
Merlin	217	56	57	51	27	62	52	60	582
Peregrine Falcon	50	4	3	5	10	3	2	3	80
Prairie Falcon	24	3	1	1	3	3	1	2	38
Eurasian Kestrel	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,985</b>	<b>1,621</b>	<b>2,182</b>	<b>2,243</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>33,365</b>

\* Data compiled by Buzz Hull. 2011 data are through January 6, 2012.

# NUMBER OF RAPTOR SIGHTINGS 2001-2011, MARIN HEADLANDS\*

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009*	2011
<b>Hours</b>	445	524	500	530	455	492	524	508	497	439
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	8,307	11,059	10,804	10,133	7,877	9,211	9,228	7,529	8,060	6,447
<b>Osprey</b>	71	106	134	124	110	108	90	88	81	57
<b>White-tailed Kite</b>	86	79	63	201	66	130	71	74	93	74
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	4	4	4	3	6	2	2	6	10	9
<b>Northern Harrier</b>	700	1,318	352	957	460	1,090	1,002	454	614	335
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b>	3,368	5,847	5,171	3,257	4,407	5,244	4,636	4,091	3,332	2,622
<b>Cooper's Hawk</b>	1,818	2,765	2,022	2,454	2,427	3,367	3,717	1,956	1,738	1,805
<b>Northern Goshawk</b>	2	0	1	0	1	0	4	2	1	0
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b>	485	677	289	548	149	612	512	559	529	248
<b>Broad-winged Hawk</b>	89	180	123	42	146	183	70	131	180	202
<b>Swainson's Hawk</b>	5	9	8	5	4	7	12	1	1	13
<b>Red-tailed Hawk</b>	8,359	12,175	6,994	13,094	7,277	11,410	11,869	6,860	8,297	7,529
<b>Ferruginous Hawk</b>	18	34	14	31	33	25	13	15	11	18
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b>	5	12	1	0	4	21	10	4	2	0
<b>Golden Eagle</b>	22	21	14	21	13	24	38	18	11	9
<b>American Kestrel</b>	577	666	690	547	627	611	378	377	458	358
<b>Merlin</b>	153	212	175	173	198	230	140	184	149	166
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	134	106	229	229	219	237	181	224	259	264
<b>Prairie Falcon</b>	5	12	3	9	5	8	4	7	9	2
<b>Unidentified</b>	1,159	1,357	1,232	1,474	1,441	1,436	1,382	904	991	1,011
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,367</b>	<b>36,639</b>	<b>28,324**</b>	<b>33,302</b>	<b>25,470</b>	<b>33,956</b>	<b>33,359</b>	<b>23,485**</b>	<b>24,826</b>	<b>21,169</b>
<b>Raptor Activity</b> (raptors per hour)	57.0	70.0	56.6	62.8	56.0	69.0	63.7	46.2	50.0	48.2

\* All hawkwatch data underwent intense review in 2011, and the numbers listed in this chart reflect corrected data. 2010 data are not included for comparison with other years because two count sites were used due to road closures during the 2010 season. See our 2010 Season Summary for a more detailed explanation.

\*\* Includes 1 Mississippi Kite.

## Golden Gate Raptor Observatory

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# *GGRO Season Summary 2011*

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*The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory is  
a program of the Golden Gate National  
Parks Conservancy in cooperation with  
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