

# Osprey – Public Safety Initiative

Steven Gurney



# Osprey are the most hazardous hawk at airports ([FAA 2024](#))

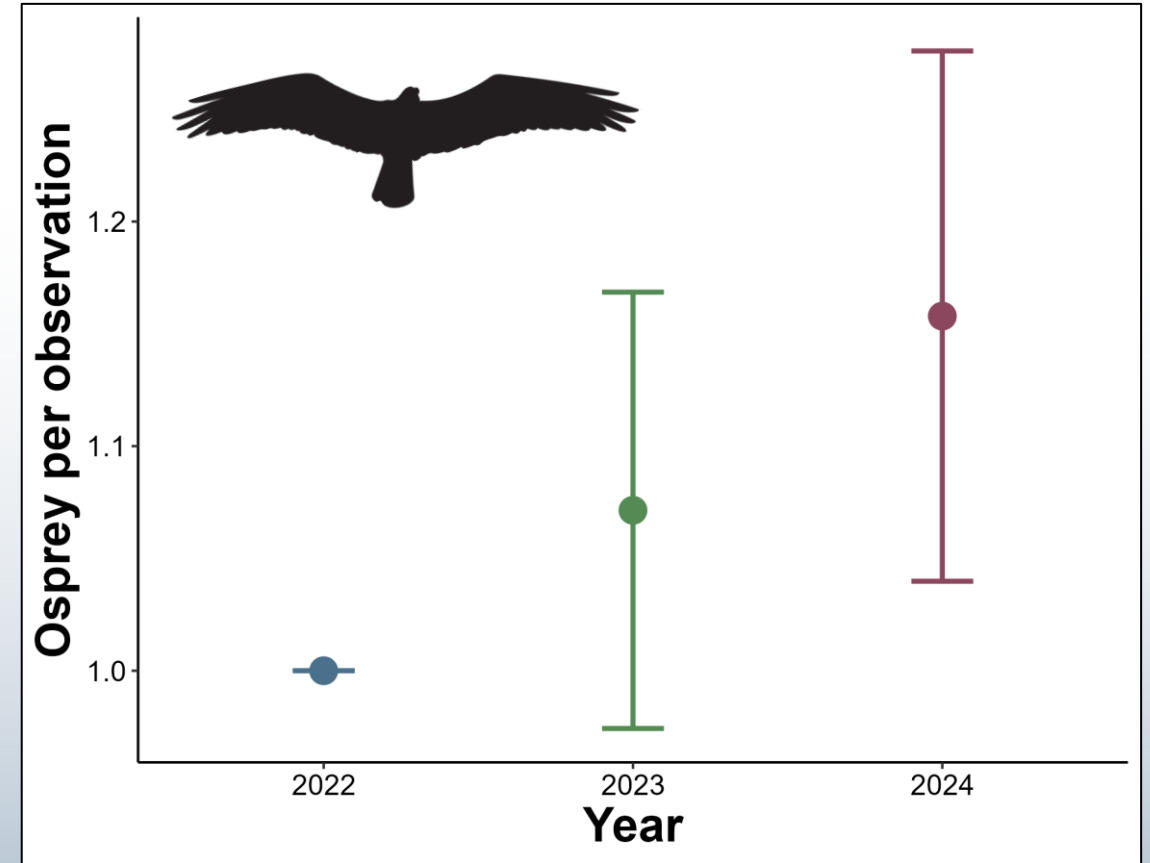
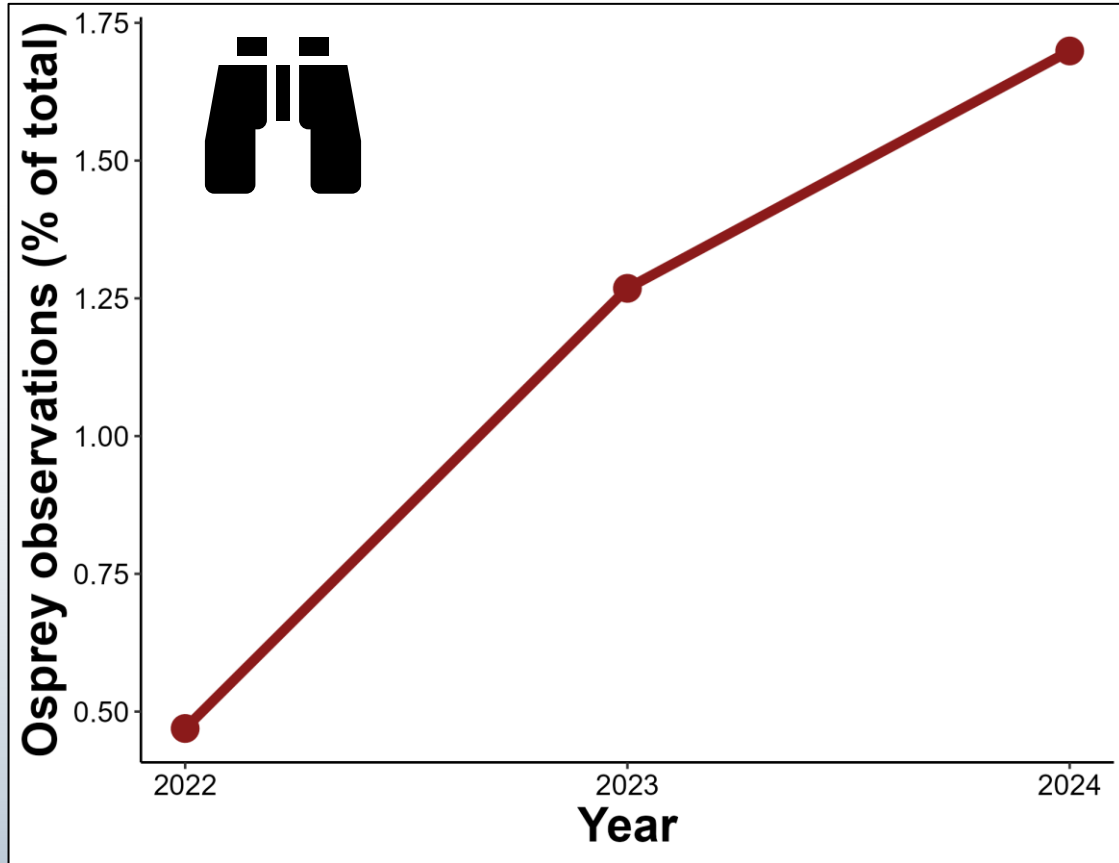
- Large-bodied
- Eat fish
- Nest within 12 miles of fish
- Commonly nest on towers
- Breed & nest in Michigan (April)
- Hatchlings fed fish
- Migratory (September & March)
- High nest-site fidelity
- Long-lived (15+ years)
- **No nests at DTW**
- **No strikes at DTW (yet)**





# THE PROBLEM:

We're observing osprey more frequently  
and observing higher numbers



# OUR GOAL:

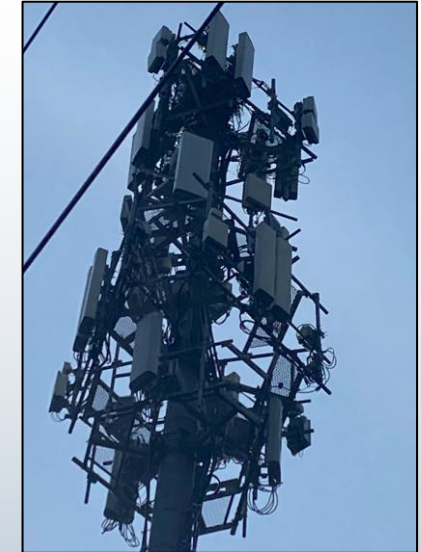
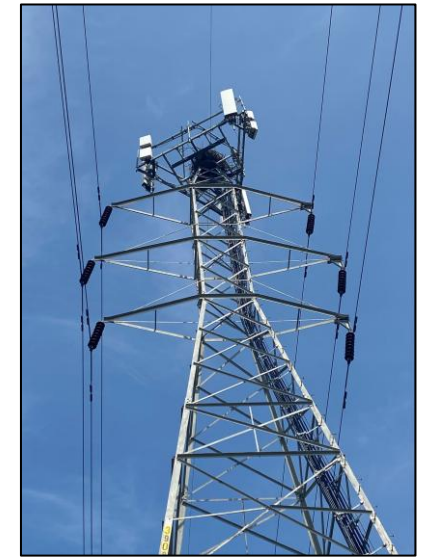
**Mitigate aviation hazards associated with osprey nesting near DTW**

## Proposed Actions:

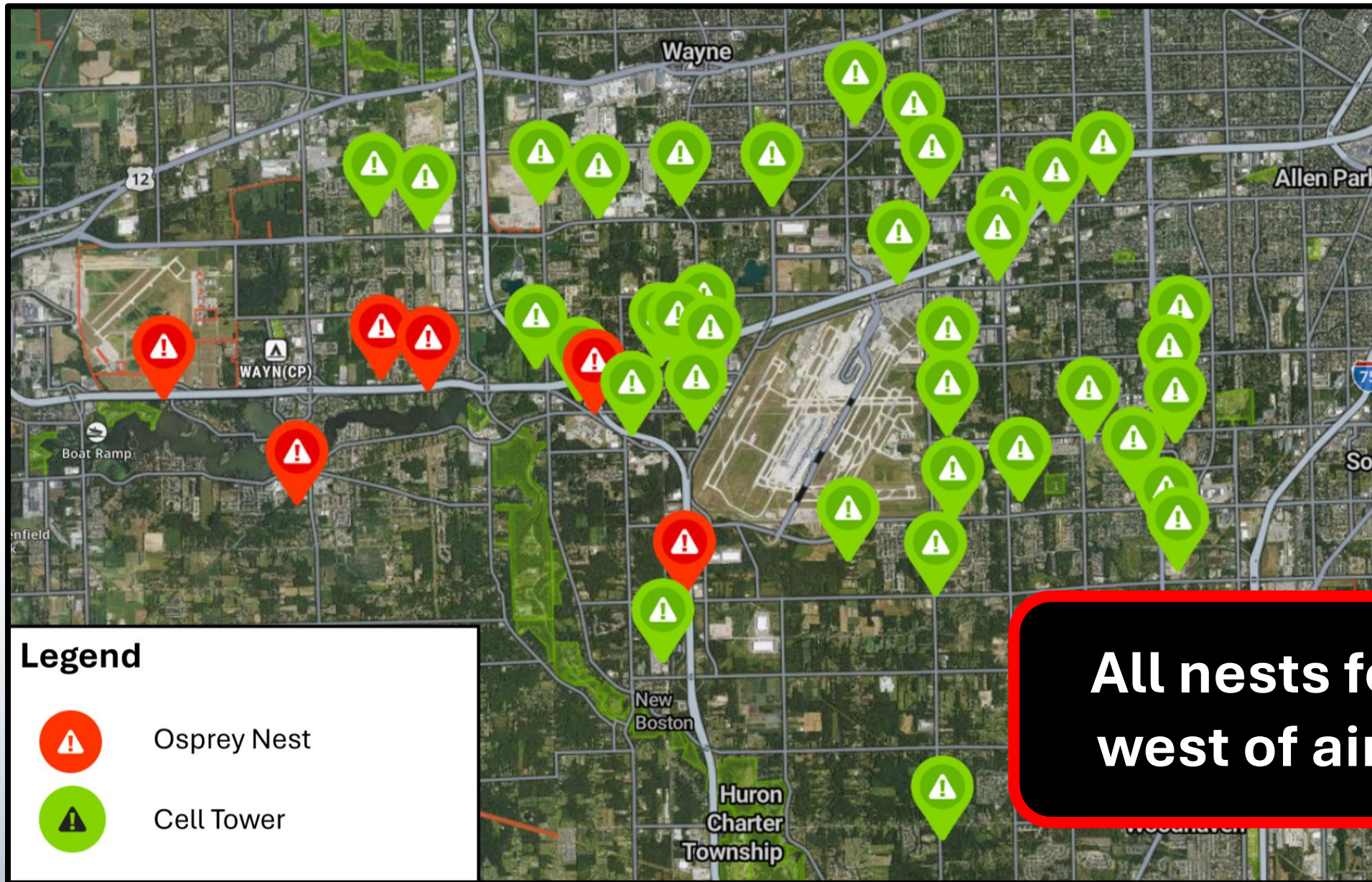
1. Develop partnerships with tower managers and DTW wildlife team act as liaison
2. Remove unoccupied nests from towers (early 2025)
3. Install nest exclusion devices on towers (early 2025)

# **We found osprey nests at 6 of 42 tower sites**

- 36 survey sites identified using Tower Maps data
- 6 additional survey sites found opportunistically







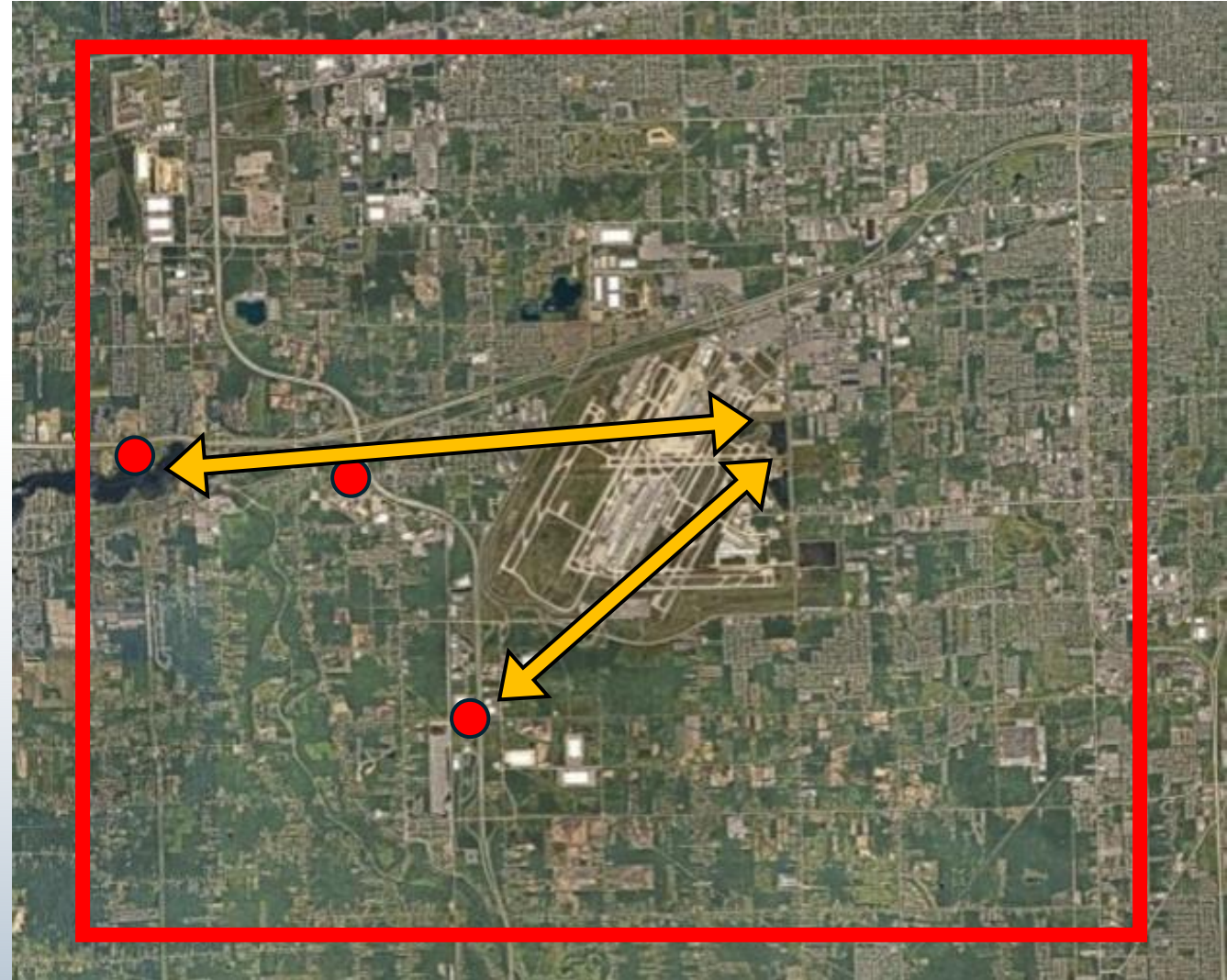


# DTW's 5-mile hazard buffer includes osprey nests



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- Osprey fly across runways to access ponds





# Osprey Initiative: Moving Forward

- Multiple companies leasing tower space = challenge
- Poor support from tower managers & limited cooperation
- Low confidence in work being completed this year
- Continue conversations

