

Osprey – Public Safety Initiative

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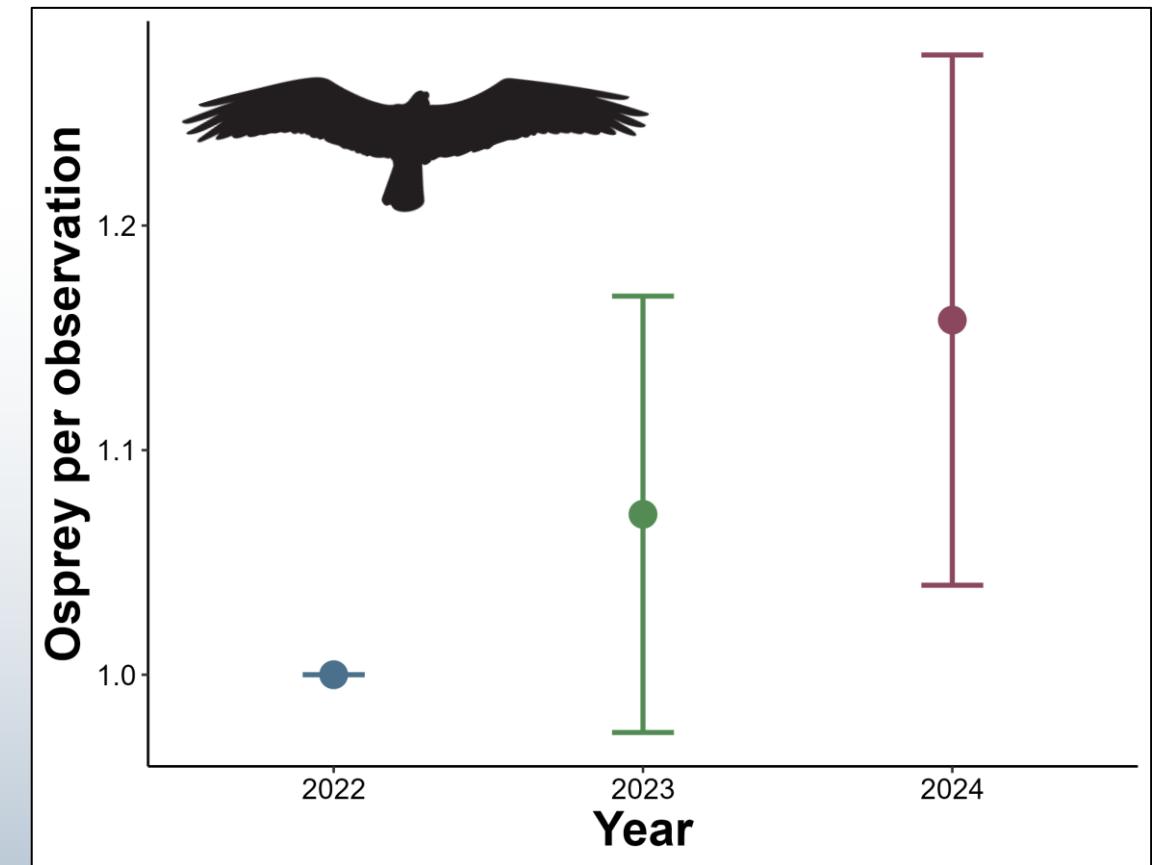
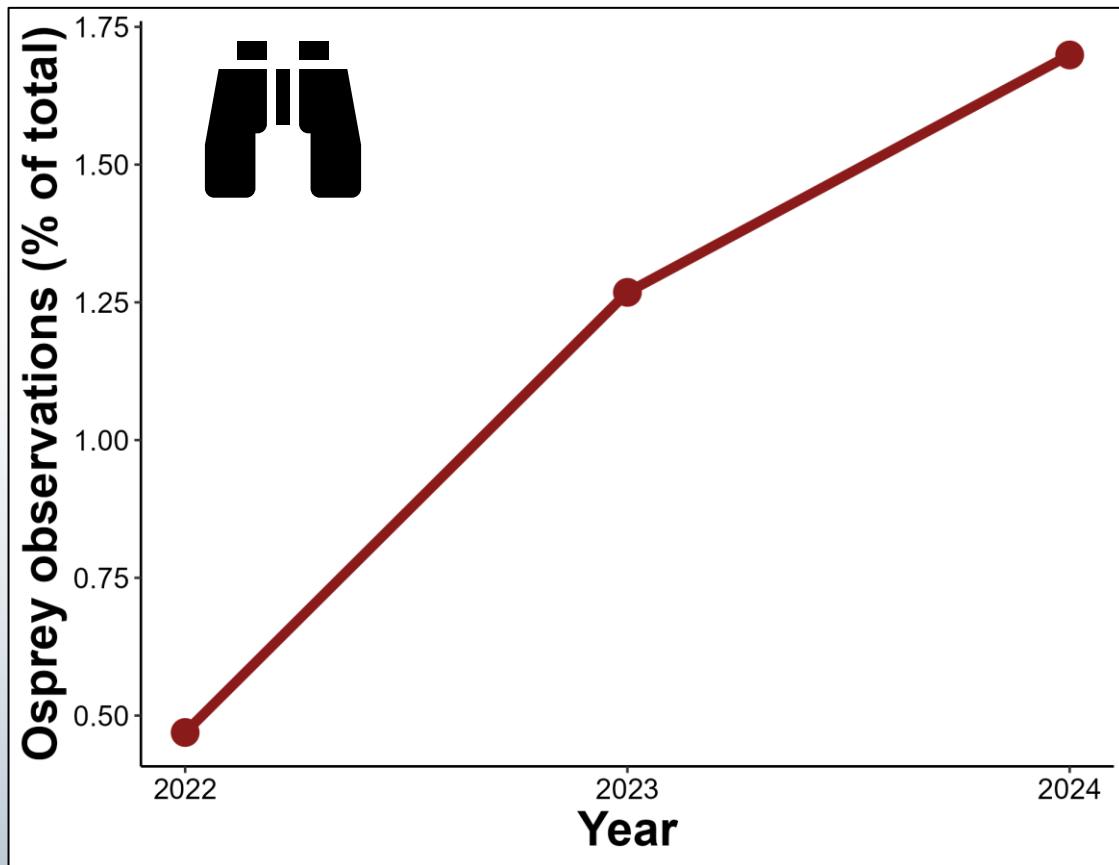
Osprey are the most hazardous hawk at airports ([FAA 2024](#))

- 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:

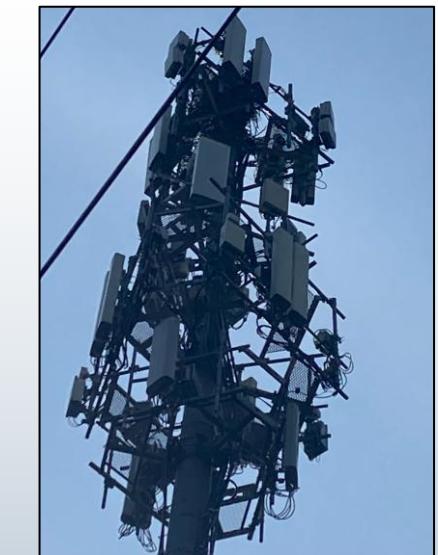
Mitigate aviation hazards associated with osprey nesting near DTW

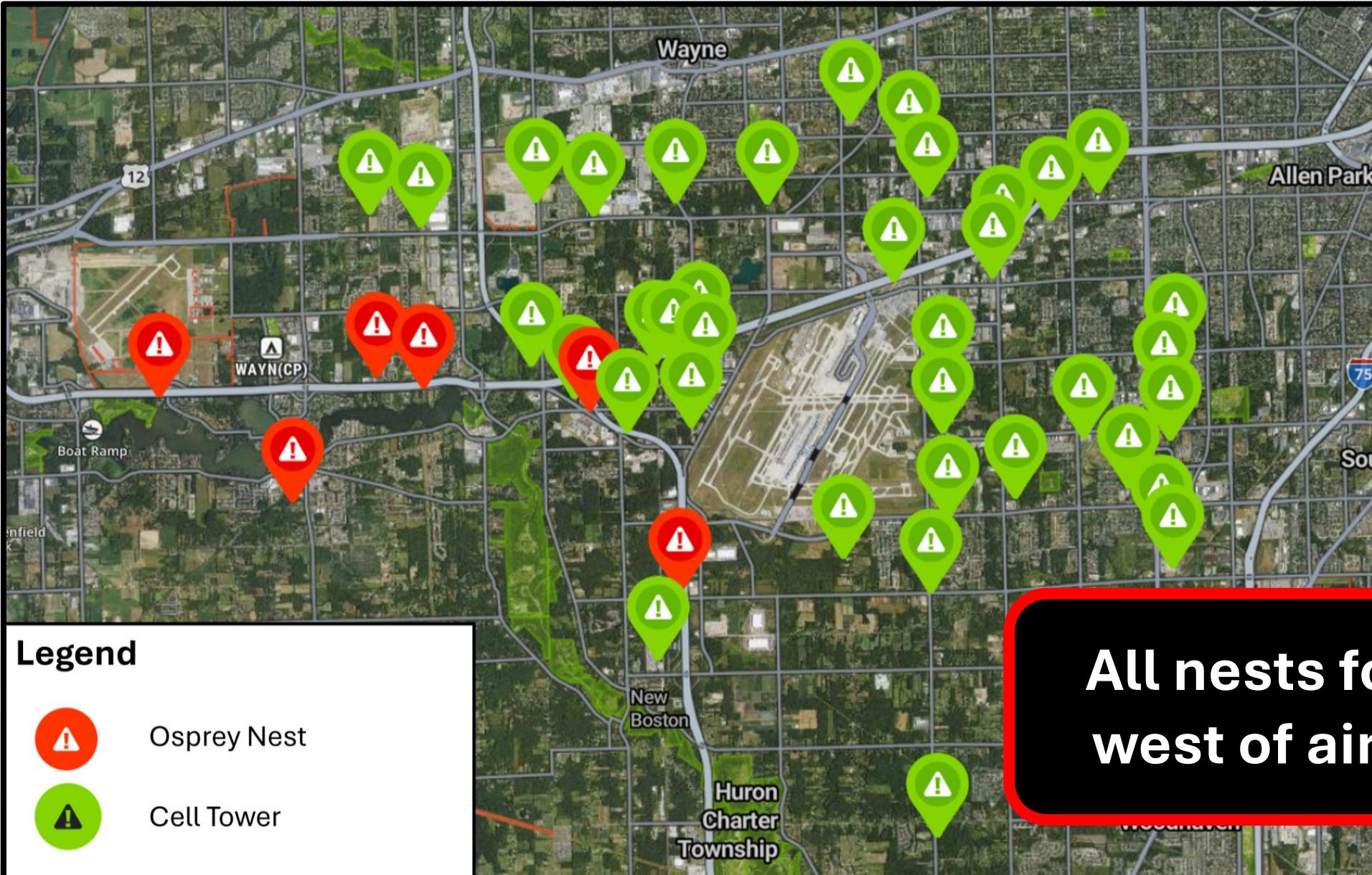
Proposed Actions:

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



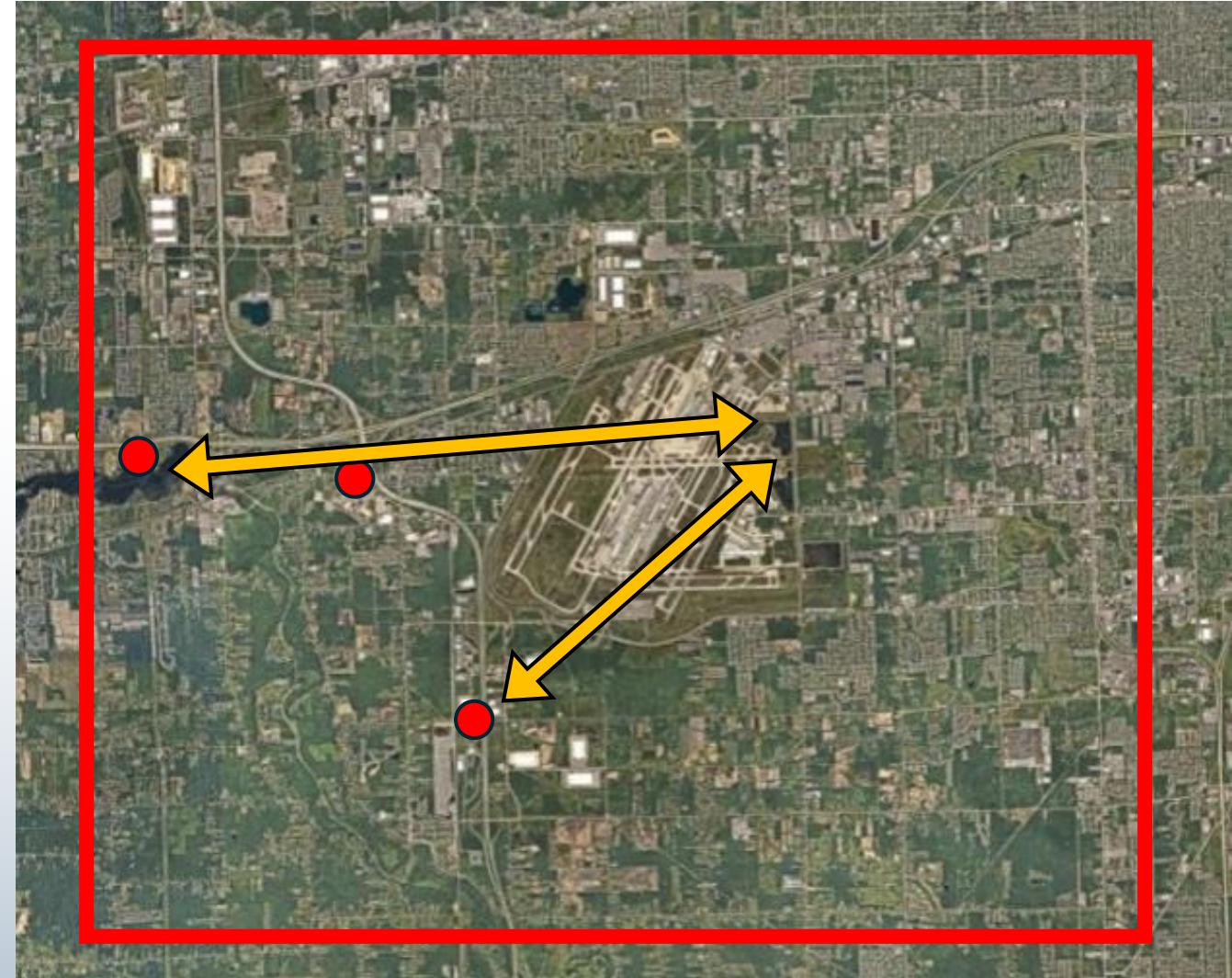


DTW's 5-mile hazard buffer includes osprey nests



DTW's 5-mile hazard buffer includes osprey nests

- 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

