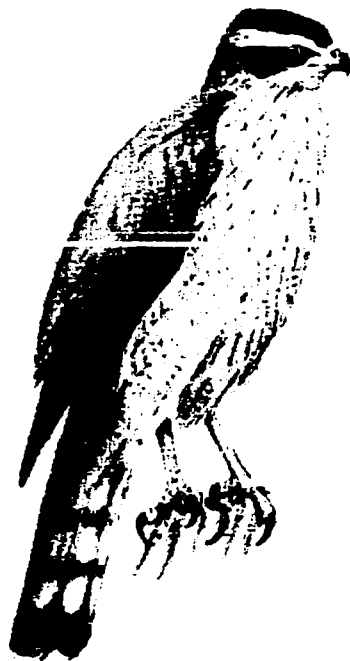


**NORTHERN GOSHAWK MONITORING PROJECT
REPORT #2**

1990

**TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST
St. Anthony, Idaho**



**Susan Patla
Independent Contractor
P.O. Box 505
Driggs, Idaho 83422**

Purchase Order No. 43-02S2-0-0184

Final Report

JULY 1991

habitat needs. (See page 31 below for a description of such an analysis by Crocker- Bedford, 1991).

III. MONITORING THE NORTHERN GOSHAWK, SUMMARY OF DATA COLLECTED, 1980-1990 TARGHEE NF

A. METHODS

1. Determination of Nesting Territories

Thirty-four goshawk nesting sites and/or clusters thought to represent 34 separate breeding territories have been located on the Targhee National Forest between 1980-1990. (Appendix Table VII lists each territory along with location, years active, productivity, and confirming observation.) I have included 10 additional territories to those listed in last year's report: six new sites found in 1990, and four locations where inactive nests have been located. These last four nest locations (Miner's Creek, Pete Creek, Taylor-Carrot, and Long Gulch) were found originally in undisturbed habitats with tree density and canopy cover characteristic of goshawk nesting stands. One to two intact, typical goshawk stick nests (nest located beneath the canopy against the tree bole) were found at each location. The stand at Pete Creek was subsequently harvested but the other three remain undisturbed. No goshawks have used these nests in the years monitored but I am confident from inspection of the areas that they should be included in the list of goshawk territories.

All 34 identified nesting territories located are a minimum of 2 miles from known neighboring territories with most located at even greater distances apart. (Note: no surveys have been made of areas in between territories.) From 0 to 5 alternate nests have been located per territory. Locations of alternate nests within the individual territories range from 100 ft up to .7 mile from each other. Based on current goshawk research (see citations below), it seems reasonable to classify nest sites or nest clusters found greater than 2 miles apart on the Targhee NF as separate breeding territories even though individual birds have not been color banded or radio tracked.

In the most thorough study to date of alternate nest use by goshawks, Woodbridge determined by color marking goshawks in northern California that alternate nesting stands for the same pair occur at a median distance of 777 ft (237m) apart or nearly the radius of a 50 acre circle. Almost a quarter of his pairs nested at even greater distances but 1.7 miles was the largest recorded distance between alternate nests (Woodbridge, 1988). In Arizona, alternate nests within the same territories were found within 1000 m (.6 mile) of each other while nests of adjacent territories averaged 2.6 km or 1.6 miles apart (Crocker-Bedford, 1990, p. 263).