

## **Summary of the 2012 Meeting of the Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group**

The Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group (EGEWG) had its second-ever meeting from July 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> in Ste.-Anne-des-Monts, a small town on the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec, Canada. In attendance were representatives from academia, industry, and both state/provincial and federal level wildlife agencies. The goal of the meeting was to provide updates on statuses, share information about on-going research, and plan for future group efforts.



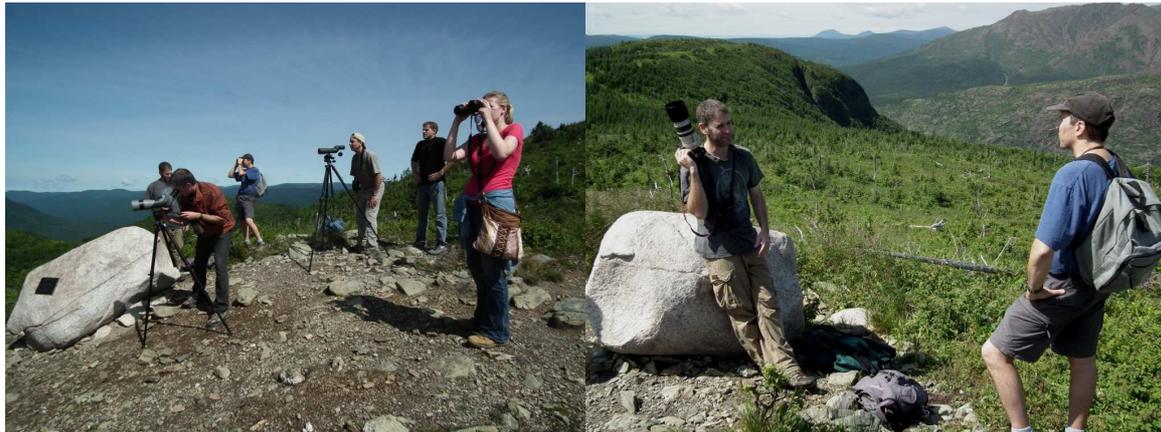
At the meeting, updates were given on golden eagle activity in different states and provinces. Junior Tremblay and Charles Maisonneuve of the Quebec Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune discussed goldens nesting in Quebec. Charlie Todd of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife discussed the history of golden eagles in Maine. Mark Martell of the Minnesota Audubon Society presented telemetry data on birds that had been wintering on the Northern Plains. Kieran O'Malley of West Virginia Division of Natural Resources gave an update on golden eagles sightings in West Virginia during winter camera trapping. Lastly, Craig Koppie of US Fish and Wildlife, Region 5, presented a summary of golden eagle activity in Maryland over the past two years.



**Members scoping out GOEA nests**

Also discussed at the meeting were various ongoing research efforts focusing on different areas of golden eagle ecology and behavior. Dave Brandes of Lafayette University gave an update on his work with modeling the interaction of terrain and wind to quantify collision risk at wind farms. Adam Duerr of West Virginia University discussed the role of weather in bird migration in eastern North America. Trish Miller of West Virginia University gave updates on two projects: first on scale dependence of flight paths of migratory golden eagles and second on age and seasonality driving spatial use patterns and movements in eastern golden eagles. Mike Lanzone

of Cellular Tracking Technologies presented findings on golden eagle winter ecology, discussing such factors as terrain, foraging, home range size, and behavior. Andrew Dennhardt of West Virginia University shared details of his up-and-coming work with estimating population size using modeling from migration counts. Maria Wheeler of Duquesne University updated the group on findings of golden eagle population genetics from both a contemporary and historic perspective—including a twist with international golden eagle specimens. Todd Katzner discussed his camera trapping project, which is fairly widespread across the eastern US and has caught images of a wide variety of species in addition to golden eagles. Finally, Chris Farmer of Tetra Tech presented on the role of conservation in wind energy planning and development.



**The two primary elements of the meeting: eagle-watching and dialogue!**

The group concluded the meeting with exciting field trips to several golden eagle nests—both active and inactive—across the peninsula. It was also agreed to hold the EGEWG's next meeting in West Virginia in winter 2013-2014, peak eagle season there. For more information on golden eagles in eastern North America, several group members will be at NAOC this August or you can contact us through the website.

*-Maria Wheeler, Duquesne University*