

(*Porthetria dispar*) defoliation killed the white oak (*Quercus alba*) in which this nest was located. The eagles continued to nest in the dead tree for the next four years, then built an alternate nest 0.5 km away and used it in 1990 through 1993. The nest in the dead tree was used by Osprey in 1991 but not thereafter.

This may be the first published case of Ospreys successfully using a Bald Eagle's nest for nesting, although the reverse has been reported (J.C. Ogden 1975, *Wilson Bull.* 87:496–505). A search of the literature found no reports of Ospreys using eagle nests. While numerous raptor species are known to utilize the nests of other raptors (A.C. Bent 1937, Life histories of North American birds of prey. Part I. U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 167. Washington, DC U.S.A., R.S. Palmer 1988, Handbook of North American birds. Vol. 4. Diurnal raptors (parts 1 and 2). Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, CT U.S.A.), we could find no documentation of Ospreys exhibiting this behavior. Sergei Postupalsky (pers. comm.) observed Ospreys nesting in abandoned Bald Eagle nests a few times in Michigan but never published these observations. Several of the nests were used for a number of years by Osprey, but in one instance a pair of eagles repossessed the nest.

Only two other instances of Ospreys nesting in Bald Eagle nests in the Chesapeake Bay area are known. Jackson Abbott (unpubl. data) reported an Osprey sitting in the very deep egg cup of a Bald Eagle's nest in Kent County, Maryland in 1969, but did not follow up on the outcome of this attempt. Bald Eagles had used the nest the previous two years. In the early 1970s, Mitchell Byrd (pers. comm.) observed a Bald Eagle in apparent incubating posture at a nest in Middlesex County, Virginia that was subsequently abandoned. The nest was then occupied by Ospreys in the same year who successfully raised young. Additionally, there are anecdotal reports of Ospreys nesting in Bald Eagle's nests in the Chesapeake Bay area (Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, unpubl. data), but there was no specific evidence that the nests were built or used by Bald Eagles.

The use of Bald Eagle nests by Ospreys for nesting is rare as indicated from monitoring hundreds of eagle nests in the Chesapeake Bay area since the 1960s. Since 1977 in Maryland, unoccupied Bald Eagle nests were available 695 times as potential nest sites for Osprey with only one actually used. Many of these nests were in live trees and probably not open enough for Osprey use. The presence of nesting Bald Eagles in an alternate nest nearby could also have reduced the availability of some of these nests to Osprey. However, many nests appeared suitable for Osprey with no eagles nearby but only the one unoccupied nest was used.

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#### BONELLI'S EAGLE (*HIERAAETUS FASCIATUS*) KILLING A BLACKBUCK (*ANTILOPE CERVICAPRA*) FAWN

On 12 September 1992 at 0900 H, a Bonelli's Eagle (*Hieraetus fasciatus*) was scanning a grassland plot in the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary in Nannaj, District Solapur (71°41'N, 75°56'E) of Maharashtra, India. After about 40 min, the eagle attacked a blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*) fawn entering a scrubland adjacent to the grassland. The eagle repeatedly struck the fawn with its talons, frequently flying 15–16 m away to gain momentum prior to striking. Over a period of 35 min, the eagle caught the fawn five times and struck in 17 times. The first four times the fawn was caught it escaped, probably because the eagle thought it was dead. Finally the bird seized the prey by the neck, standing on it with wings open to maintain balance. After killing the fawn, the eagle stood beside it for a few seconds and then flew off, possibly because of my close proximity. After 15 min, the eagle returned and ate about one fourth of the fawn after first removing the alimentary canal from the ventral side. M.K. Ranjitsinh (1989, The Indian blackbuck. Natraj Publ., Dehradun, India) reported the average weight of blackbuck fawns at birth as 3.27 kg ( $N = 33$ ).

Like other "booted" eagles, the Bonelli's Eagle did not use its beak while killing the fawn. The fawn had talon scratches on the neck region that were bleeding, but there was no injury to the eyes. During the episode described above the eagle's beak was used only four or five times when the bird lost its balance while standing on the fawn.

On a second occasion, on 27 November 1992, a Bonelli's Eagle was seen feeding on a blackbuck carcass which I had put out to bait wolves. The eagle fed on the carcass for 30 min.

These observations represent the first report of Bonelli's Eagle killing a blackbuck fawn and scavenging on carrion. According to Ali and Ripley (1987, Handbook of the birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford Univ. Press, Bombay, India), "food of this eagle varies from the Myna (*Acridotheres tritis*) to as large as injured Greylag Geese (*Anser anser*). It seldom if ever descends to carrion-eating." L. Brown et al. (1982, The birds of Africa. Vol. 1, Academic Press, New York, NY U.S.A.) reported Bonelli's Eagle killing no mammals other than mice and rabbits; the latter being the most important food. According to S. Cramp and K.E.L. Simmons [Eds.] (1979, The birds of the western Palearctic. Vol. 2, Oxford Univ. Press, New York, NY U.S.A.), less usual prey of this species includes young foxes (*Vulpes* spp.) and bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*). T.J. Roberts (1991, The birds of Pakistan. Vol. 1, Oxford Univ. Press, Karachi, Pakistan) twice saw this eagle capture hares.

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