

BIRD
SPECIES OF

BRAS D'OR

OSPREY

BALBUZARD

NI'KMAWE'SU

The Osprey is an iconic bird of prey. Its large stature and powerful talons make it a strong predator. Mature osprey have a brown back and white head, neck, breast, and belly. They are also identifiable by the dark stripe that spans from the base of the beak and across the eye up to their back.

THREATS

Mature osprey have few natural enemies. The presence of guns, power lines, toxic chemicals, synthetic fish nets and many other modern products have brought harm to the osprey's environment. Water pollution and the loss of forested habitat along major waterways are additional threats.

HISTORY

Ospreys are usually present in Nova Scotia from the end of March to September. These birds build huge nests atop tall, open spaces (like power poles!) Since 1979, Nova Scotia Power has worked to relocate osprey nests from active power poles to nearby unused power poles.

Osprey are sometimes used as symbols in Indigenous artwork of the Pacific Northwest (e.g. Kwakwaka'wakw art). They are often used to depict a mythical two-headed Thunderbird.



POPULATION:
Least Concern



FUN FACT!

Ospreys have been the official Provincial bird of Nova Scotia since 1994!



ACAP
Cape Breton