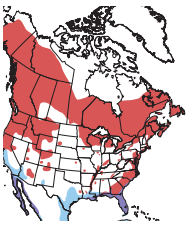




Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* **OSPR** L 23in



Common, and familiar summer visitor to coastal areas (and resident in much of FL). Scarcer inland. Winters in s.; numbers increasing rapidly. Often known as 'fish hawk,' is frequently seen hunting, diving, or carrying fish from lakes, rivers, or the ocean. Builds large stick nests on conspicuous man-made nest boxes, buoys, channel markers, and in trees. Spectacular plunge-dives, led by huge feet and talons, often result in envious fishermen. Familiar call when flying or sitting - a high-pitched

'choop!' **ID:** Often appears as gull-like head on; profile is flat-winged, or a shallow 'W'. Slim with long tail. Wings typically angled back but straighter when soaring. White body and underwing contrast with dark carpal and barred flight feathers/tail, a unique combination. Ad ♀ averages darker breast band. Juv: superficially as adult but with pale-fringed upperparts and buff on breast and underwing coverts.