

10TH ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO BAY OSPREY DAYS



Image above: Kathleen R. Fenton

MOSTLY FREE

*** boat trips—2 hrs
\$45 per person**

Nesting Osprey have flourished in San Francisco Bay since the early 2000's when the first successful nesting pair took up residence at the southernmost tip of Pier 34 at the mouth of the Napa River in the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve. In this 2022 season there are 48 nests, Baywide, down from last year's 56 documented nests.

HOSTED BY

Mare Island Heritage Trust

Golden Gate Raptor Observatory
Napa Solano Audubon Society
Golden Gate Audubon Society

SPONSORED BY

Dolphin Charters

Mare Island, Vallejo, CA



Photo: Mare Island osprey returns to nest with crow. (not a food source)
Chris Riley, Vallejo Times Herald, Vallejo, CA

Osprey nesting in the Bay, still so novel with no recorded nesting in the 20th or 21st century or in the ancient shellmounds. Yet, around the world, the same species soar, dive, fish, nest, feed and fledge their young. . .

We hope you will join them and us, to celebrate their resilience...and ours. It's been nearly 3 years since our nonprofit land trust that founded, funded and operated the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve, the epicenter of osprey nesting in the San Francisco Bay, has been locked out as the wildlands manager of the Preserve, following a suspicious series of fires in 2019. This makes it hard to daily monitor and record "our" osprey. Our team of dedicated scientists, researchers, guides, volunteers and board of the Mare Island Heritage Trust, want to thank you for your understanding and your incredible support. After 13 years of trusted and protective care of the Preserve, we are still as confused and troubled as you are and look to better times ahead, for our wildlife and you. Imagine, more than 9,850 fellow Preserve Users have signed our online petition to return the Preserve to our care. [Click here](#) to sign and share. And, we're still so excited to share our beloved osprey with you this weekend.

Myrna Hayes, President, Mare Island Heritage Trust

call/text 707-249-9633

www.mareislandpreserve.com 1



Photo: Bill George, aboard Dolphin Charters

SEE OSPREY NESTS UP CLOSE ON BOAT CRUISES, JOIN GUIDED OSPREY WATCHING HIKES AND DRIVING TOURS, LEARN BAY OSPREY SCIENCE IN A ZOOM SLIDE SHOW

Join together with volunteers leading the Baywide nest site monitoring and protection effort and local Audubon Society field trip leaders and other local guides, in an exciting gathering to celebrate and learn about the growing and still relatively new phenomenon of osprey nesting in San Francisco Bay.

Two webcams monitor Bay osprey nests. The latest webcam placed by Island Energy is at the northernmost nest on Mare Island. Click here: <https://youtu.be/XxkRzdX012Y> Scroll back up to 12 hours. No sound or night viewing. Located in Richmond sfbayospreys.org is hosted by Golden Gate Audubon Society.

Friday, June 24, 8:15am-9:30am Join Mare Island Preserve Photographer Bill George, for an Early Morning Wildlife Photography Hike in the Mare Island Preserve

Former Mare Island Shipyard worker, Bill George is our “unofficial photographer” of the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve. He usually spends Friday mornings chronicling wildlife and humans using the Preserve. He later posts on our Facebook Preserve Community page. Bill has agreed to guide a short wildlife photographing walk in the Preserve. This isn’t really a class. Bill will help you to see where nesting birds are, including Osprey, great blue herons and great egrets and guide as far as the Rowser Garden, 1/2 mile from the parking lot. Bring binoculars, (will you share or bring an extra pair?) a scope if you have one, camera and hike gear – hats, sunscreen, water for 1-mile roundtrip walk on a paved trail. Meet at Mare Island Preserve parking lot, 167 O’Hara Ct. at Azuar Dr. southern end of Mare Island. FREE. No reservation required. Call/text 707-249-9633.



Photo: Bill George, osprey perch near the only nest in a tree in the Bay, a dead palm tree in the Mare Island Preserve

Friday, June 24, 1:30pm-3:00pm Guided Driving Tour of Mare Island Osprey Nest Sites with Myrna Hayes, Mare Island Preserve Co-founder/Manager 2007-2019

Repeats Saturday, June 25, 1:15pm-3:15pm with Tony Brake

Myrna Hayes has volunteered on the environmental cleanup of Mare Island for 28 years. She served on the Mayoral appointed 35-member Regional Park Taskforce which prepared a Report

for the City of Vallejo outlining how to open and operate the Mare Island Preserve property. She then co-founded and managed the Preserve for 13 years. There just isn't any part of the Island she doesn't know. She guides a caravan car driving and scope viewing tour of the Mare Island osprey nests on former

Directions to Mare Island Preserve

The Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve is located at the southernmost end of the former Naval Shipyard.

Unexplicably, the City of Vallejo has both dismissed our nonprofit organization as the manager of the wildlands park, and it has also removed ALL of our wayfinding signs we placed on the Island. A few have now been added to the dark black and blue wayfinding signs. Even the sign posted on the entrance gate is indistinguishable from multiple warning signs. Entrance Correa Ct. @ Azuar Dr. on Mare Island in Vallejo, CA 94592

From the intersection of Tennessee St. and Mare Island Way, continue on Tennessee St. or left turn at the light, across the Causeway to deadend at Azuar Dr. Turn left onto Azuar Dr. Drive for 2 miles to the entrance of the Preserve through the gate to the parking lot 167 O'Hara Ct. open only 8:00am-5:00pm. If directions say to meet at the gate, it is before the Preserve entrance at the intersection of Correa Ct. @ Azuar Dr.

Finally, feel free to call/text Myrna Hayes, at 707-249-9633.

shipyard cranes, buildingways, light poles and even a perched plywood constructed box nest placed by XKT Engineering as a deterrent nest site! You will observe nests and learn the fascinating life of the epicenter of Bay Area osprey nesting, with lots of Mare Island history. Meet at the Mare Island Preserve entrance gate for social distanced car caravan (no carpools). Call/text Myrna Hayes, for assistance, if you get lost. 707-249-9633. See directions on left.

Friday, June 24, 5:00pm-8:00pm

Join Mare Island Preserve Co-Founder and Manager 2007-2019, Myrna Hayes for a Short Walk to View Nesting Osprey, then Gather to Watch Osprey in the Sky and other Birds During the "Hunting Hour"

Myrna Hayes co-founded and managed the Mare Island Preserve for 13 years. You will find her a lot of weekend afternoons now, outside the entrance to the Preserve with a fleet of camp chairs set up under the shade of eucalyptus trees from which a wide range of birds are visible.



Photo: Karen Grobner, Osprey on lightpole nest, Berth 24 Near Mare Island Preserve entrance

Walks start on the half hour, 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm to go about 200 ft to view the nest shown above. Bring a chair, binoculars, (will you share or bring an extra pair?), a scope and camera. Why not bring beverage(s) and even a picnic dinner? We'll have hot water, tea/hot chocolate and hot cups as the evening gets cooler. Meet at the Mare Island Preserve entry gate. Deadend of Azuar Dr. at the south end of Mare Island. FREE. No reservation required. See directions to left. Call/text 707-249-9633.



Photo: Lee Ann Tompkins-Baker, osprey and moon, XKT Engineering nest tub placed as a deterrent. Mare Island, Vallejo, CA

Osprey's diet is 99% fish, so of course we think fish is the best menu for the weekend

We enjoy a local restaurant in Vallejo called **La Cuchara** which serves fusion Salvadoran food. Eduardo, the owner, is a friend of our Mare Island Preserve and you'll love the great team and vibe. Be sure to tell Eduardo that Myrna sent you!

Their **Fish tacos** are out of this world! The entire menu is scrumptious. Fresh Agua Fresca strawberry, jamaica and pineapple plus horchata, a bakery and wine/beers.

Address: 105 Couch St. Vallejo, CA 94590 The intersection of Sonoma Blvd/Hwy 29 and Couch St. It's round and red roofed with gloriously colorful paintings. Lots of outdoor seating.

Hours: 9:00am-8:00pm

Phone: 707-654-8242

Mare Island, Vallejo, CA

Saturday, June 25, 9:00am-11:00am Cruise the Napa River on the Lookout for Osprey: fishing, nests up close, nestlings and fledglings

Repeats Saturday, June 25 1:00pm-3:00pm and Sunday, June 26, 9:00am-11:00am and 1:00pm-3:00pm

Come aboard Dolphin Charters for a 2-hour still social distanced boat cruise on the Mare Island Strait for up close views of osprey nests, possible peregrine falcon sighting and learn Mare Island history with Myrna Hayes, President, Mare Island Heritage Trust. Past President and field guide for the Napa-Solano Audubon Society, Darrel Lee will also guide on both Sunday boat

trips. \$45 per person. Space limited to 30 persons. Leaves from Vallejo Marina. Call 510-527-9622 or 1-800-472-9942 or visit: dolphincharters.com

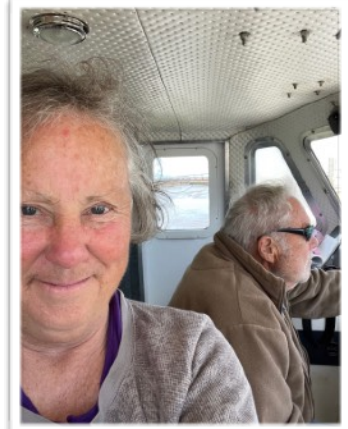


Photo: Myrna Hayes with Captain Ronn Patterson, owner, Dolphin Charters



Photo: Bill George, Osprey Days participants aboard *River Dolphin* on the Napa River/ Mare Island Strait Vallejo, CA with Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve in the background. The former Mare Island Naval Ammunition Depot, founded 165 years ago this year, was opened to the public for the first time, in 2007 by volunteers of the Mare Island Heritage Trust with the US Navy and its contractors, Weston Solutions, Inc. and the City of Vallejo. Please help us return to the management of this special wildlands park, by signing the petition on our website, mareislandpreserve.com Thank you!

call/text 707-249-9633

www.mareislandpreserve.com 4

Saturday, June 25, 11:30am-12:30pm

Zoom/Facebook Live Presentation (*see Zoom/Facebook Live details page 5, below left*) **with Tony Brake, Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, Bay Area Osprey Monitoring Director**
“A Season of Osprey Nesting in San Francisco Bay”

Repeats as a Zoom/Facebook Live Repost Sunday, June 26 11:30am-12:30pm

Join Golden Gate Raptor Observatory's volunteer Bay Osprey Monitoring Director, Tony Brake for a science-based Zoom/Facebook Live presentation. Tony's Osprey talk is packed with info. about the nesting osprey population in San Francisco Bay which has grow and expanded southward over the last decade, with 48 nests now active between Vallejo and the South Bay. Since almost all of the nests are on human-made structures, there have been numerous cases of nest removal and disturbance. Nesting on problematic structures is easily solved by the installation of alternative artificial nest structures, accomplished for about ten nesting pairs, so far. Continued education of wildlife agencies, biology consulting firms and property managers about this approach will allow this iconic species to continue to expand and thrive in San Francisco Bay. (View again /share Live Post on Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Facebook page, via Zoom on our website.

**How to join Tony's
Zoom/Facebook Live
presentations aired
Saturday, June 25 and
Sunday, June 26,
11:30am-12:30pm**

ZOOM VIEWING LINK

To join via Zoom Saturday, June 25 and June 26, 11:30am-12:30pm we will post the Zoom link on our www.mareislandpreserve.com website prior to Tony's presentation. Check back!

You may send your email to myrnahayes@mac.com

FACEBOOK LIVE

To Join Tony's presentation on Facebook Live, visit the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Page.

VIEW AND SHARE AGAIN

Finally, following Tony's presentation, you will be able to view and share via Facebook Live, Zoom and Youtube. (Please be patient while we post early in the following week)



Photo: Bill George, osprey nest on light pole on a pier in the former Mare Island Naval Ammunition Depot, Napa River/ Mare Island Strait Vallejo, CA

**Saturday, June 25,
1:00pm-3:00pm
Cruise the Napa River on
the Lookout for Osprey:
fishing, nests up close,
nestlings and fledglings**

*Repeats Saturday, June 25
9:00am-11:00am with Myrna
Hayes and Sunday, June 26,
9:00am-11:00am and
1:00pm-3:00pm with Napa
Solano Audubon past President
and field guide, Darrell Lee*

Come aboard Dolphin

Charters for a 2-hour social

distanced boat cruise in the Mare Island Strait for up close views of osprey nests, possible peregrine

falcon sighting and learn Mare Island history with Myrna Hayes,

President, Mare Island Heritage Trust. \$45 per person. Space

limited to 30max persons. Leaves from Vallejo Marina. Call

510-527-9622 or 1-800-472-9942 or visit: dolphincharters.com

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Tony Brake, Bay Area Osprey Monitoring Director, Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, guides a caravan car driving and scope viewing tour of the Mare Island osprey nests on former shipyard cranes, buildingways, light poles and even a perched box placed by XKT Engineering as a deterrent nest site! Tony is a scientist, enthusiast and adventurer. There is no better person to help you observe nests and learn the fascinating life...in real time, of Bay Area osprey. Meet at the Mare Island Preserve entrance gate for a car caravan. Call/text Myrna Hayes, for assistance, 707-249-9633. (See directions on page 3.)



Photo: Karen Grobner, Osprey nest perched on former nuclear rod refueling crane, Drydock 2, Mare Island Drydocks Napa River/Mare Island Strait, Vallejo, CA

Saturday, June 25, 3:30pm-5:00pm
Guided Osprey, Great Blue Heron and Great Egret Viewing Hike in the Mare Island Preserve with Myrna Hayes, Osprey Days Co-founder

Myrna Hayes co-founded and managed the Mare Island Preserve from 2007 until 2019. She is knowledgeable of all things Mare Island Preserve. Her purpose in hosting Osprey Days is to ensure that you see Mare Island osprey in their natural element. Bring binoculars (will you share or bring an extra pair?), scopes, cameras and hike gear – hats, sunscreen, water for a 1-mile walk on paved trail. Meet at the Mare Island Preserve parking lot 167 O'Hara Ct. at Azuar Dr. southern end of Mare Island in Vallejo, CA 94592. Call/text 707-249-9633. Directions to the Preserve on page 3.



Photo: Bill George, birdwatching group viewing nesting osprey, Mare Island Preserve

Saturday, June 25, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Gather to Watch Osprey in the Sky and other Birds During the "Hunting Hour". BYO Beverages. . .Cold/hot Drinks, Wine & Beer Served with a light BBQ (donations appreciated)

Myrna Hayes, who co-founded and managed the Mare Island Preserve for 13 years, will host this evening gathering. Evenings are magical at this kinda quirky spot! Bring a chair, binoculars, (will you share or bring an extra pair?), a scope and camera. Meet at the Mare

Island Preserve entry gate at the southern end of Mare Island in Vallejo, CA. (Directions: page 3) FREE. No reservation required. Call/text 707-249-9633.

Sunday, June 26, 9:00am-11:00am Cruise the Napa River on the Lookout for Osprey: fishing, nests up close, nestlings and fledglings with Napa-Solano Audubon Society past President and field guide Darrell Lee

Repeats Saturday, June 25 9:00am-11:00am and 1:00pm-3:00pm and Sunday, June 26, 1:00pm-3:00pm with Darrell Lee

Come aboard Dolphin Charters for a 2-hour still social distanced boat cruise on the Mare Island Strait for up close views of osprey nests, possible peregrine falcon sighting and learn Mare Island history with Myrna Hayes, President, Mare Island Heritage Trust. Past President and field guide for the Napa-Solano Audubon Society, Darrell Lee will also guide on both Sunday boat trips. \$45 per person. Space limited to 30 persons. Leaves from Vallejo Marina. Call 510-527-9622 or 1-800-472-9942 or visit: dolphincharters.com



Photo: Darrell Lee, osprey delivering Pacific Staghorn Sculpin, aka Bullhead, to Walnut Ave. nest, Mare Island, Vallejo, CA



Photo: Myrna Hayes, Tony Brake, Bay Osprey Monitoring Director, presenting osprey nesting data during June 2021 Osprey Days, (Myrna's dog, Nitro, at his feet) Vallejo, CA

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A Zoom/Facebook Live Presentation *(see Zoom/Facebook Live details page 5)* **with Tony Brake, Volunteer Osprey Monitoring Manager, Golden Gate Raptor Observatory "A Season of Osprey Nesting in San Francisco Bay"**

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Photo: Bill George, female osprey, left and male, right perched on the scale test structure in the former Mare Island Naval Ammunition Depot, Vallejo, CA

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Come aboard Dolphin Charters for a 2-hour social distanced boat cruise in the Mare Island Strait for up close views of osprey nests, possible peregrine falcon sighting. Learn Mare Island history with Myrna Hayes, President, Mare Island Heritage Trust and all about osprey with Darrell Lee. \$45 per person. Space limited to 30 max persons. Leaves from Vallejo Marina. Call 510-527-9622 or 1-800-472-9942 or visit: dolphincharters.com

Please consider making a donation to our nonprofit land trust, Mare Island Heritage Trust. Visit mareislandpreserve.com to donate and to sign our petition to return the Mare Island Preserve to our skilled and gentle care. We care for Ospreys!

Take our Osprey with you . . . wherever you call home . . . and marvel, please.

As we come to the end of our celebration of another glorious season of Osprey nesting on Mare Island, the epicenter of San Francisco Bay osprey nesting . . . where it all began here on the Napa River/Mare Island Strait, we reflect on the special gift we have been given—we have been chosen by Mother Nature to steward her stunningly beautiful fishing eagle, the same species throughout the world, here, on this magical Island.

May I ask you a few questions?

- ❖ Do you fully comprehend what that means?
- ❖ Do you understand what a “flagship” and herald of nature the presence of Osprey are?
- ❖ Do you know that because of them, DDT was banned?
- ❖ Did you know that around the world, 70% of ospreys nest on manmade structures?
- ❖ Do you see the synergy that brought osprey to make their homes here on this Island? Maybe its because we have done the hard work of environmental cleanup on the Island and in the waterways of the Bay. In spite of the pain of base closure, osprey have seized on the manmade structures of past use to choose to “develop” their new homes. Pretty cool!
- ❖ How long do you think these ospreys eyed this Island Paradise and spoke among themselves of the day when they would be able to colonize this ideal nesting community? Asking for a friend!

The amazing thing is that they fit right in. If they select a spot that doesn't work for us, if we build an alternative nest site nearby, they move! PG&E has placed 1,000 nest tubs in CA for Bald and Golden eagles and osprey for whom their power poles make perfect nest sites. A thriving nest placed for just this purpose by Island Energy is located at the northern entrance of Mare Island.