

Wintering Steppe eagle *Aquila nipalensis* in Hurghada Egypt from 2019 till 2023



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Courtesy Yossi Leshim

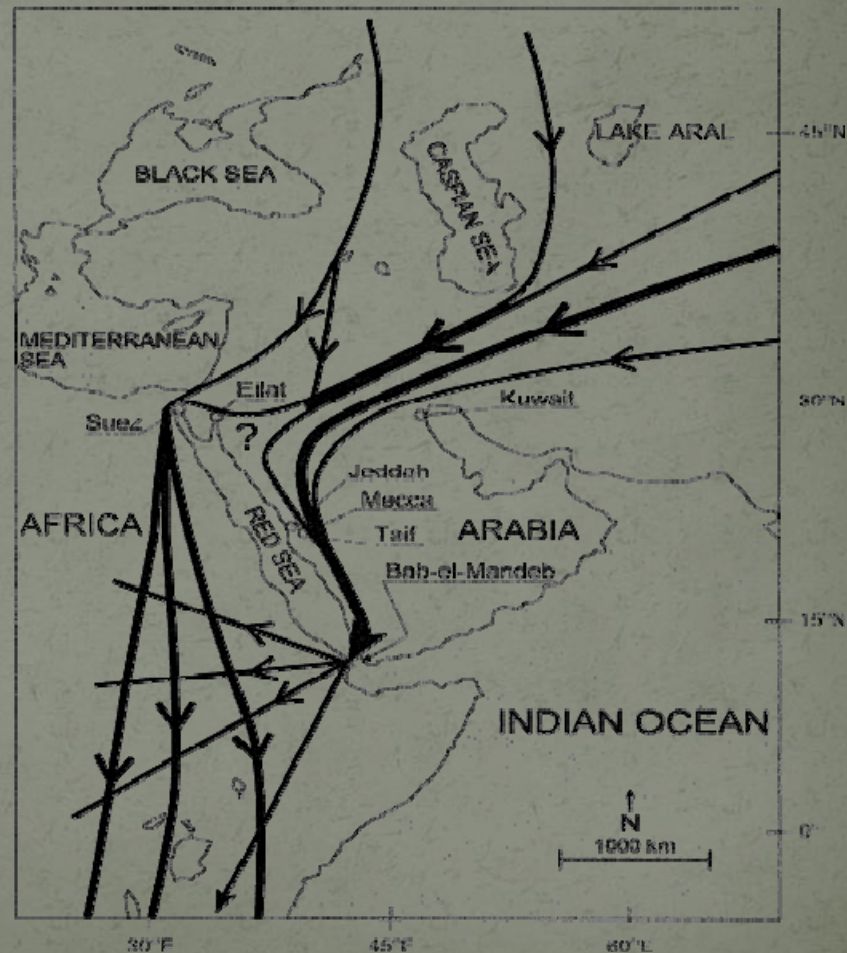
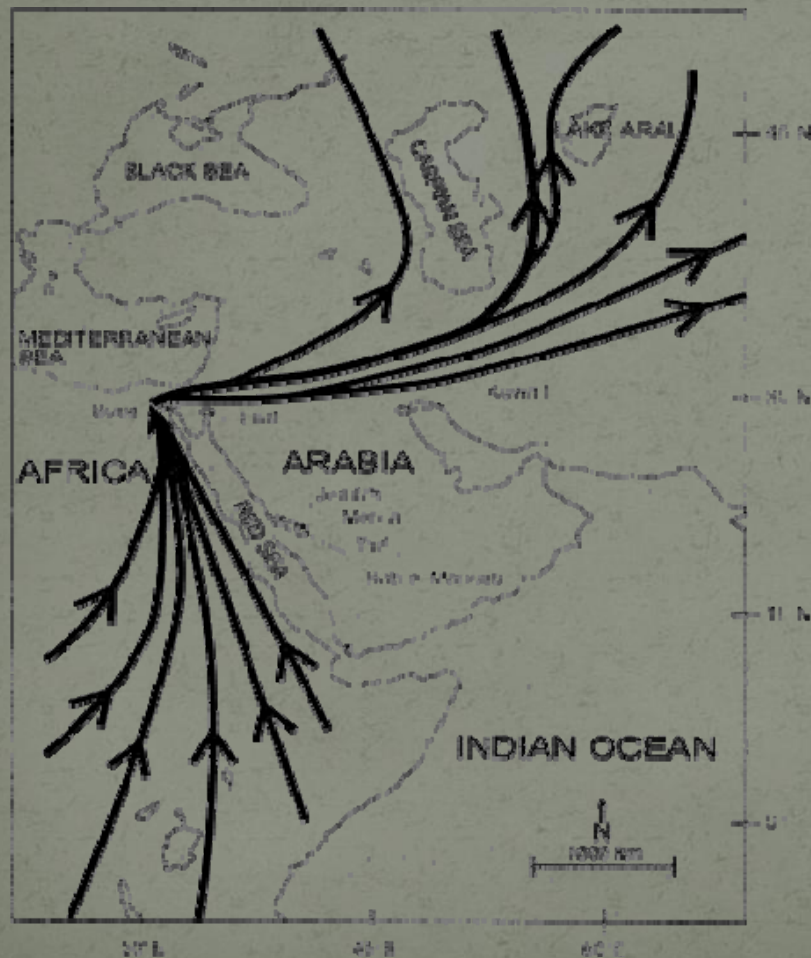


Egypt located at the northeast corner of Africa and southwest corner of Asia by a land bridge formed by the Sinai Peninsula.

Introduction

- This study aims to understand the ecology of aggregations of Steppe eagle (outside breeding range) at dumping sites along the narrow migration corridors of the flyway at Hurghada city located at Egyptian Red Sea coast during a time after the coast had been developed for tourism.

MIGRATION ROUTES OF STEPPE EAGLES BETWEEN ASIA AND AFRICA, based on data from 16 satellite-tracked Steppe Eagles and other studies (MEYBURG et al 2003)



Methods & Study Area



Results & Findings



- Some Steppe Eagle goes from the north of Africa through the middle and southern regions of Africa, including Hurghada, where they can find a suitable place to winter. In Hurghada they can find enough food at dumping sites, safe roosting area at Red Sea mountains and electric pylons and water near resorts on the Red Sea coast.
- One eagle been tagged from Jourdan 2021 by Mick Mc Grady was wintering in 2021 ,2022& 2023 in Hurghada City.



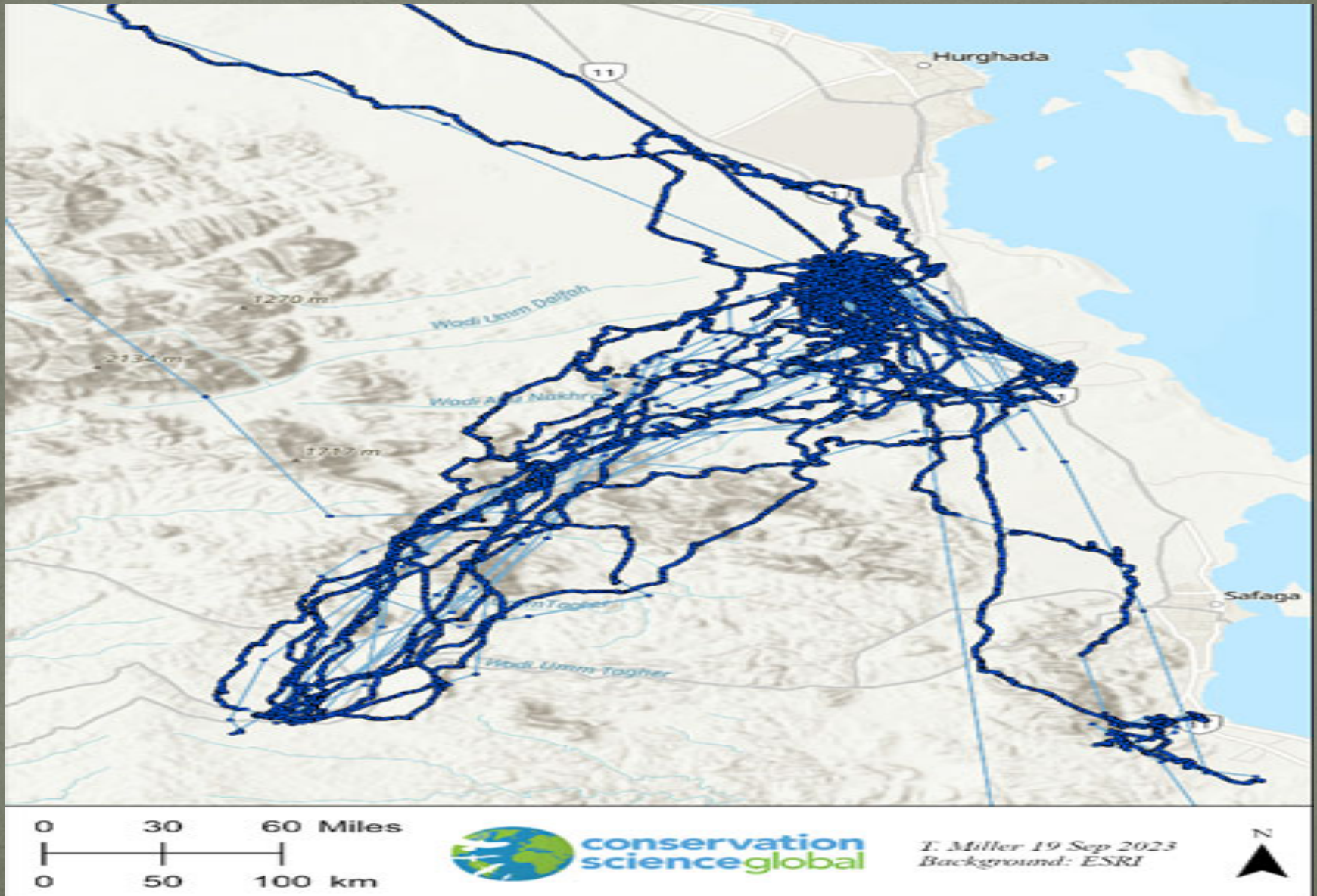
The migration and summering grounds of a Steppe eagle that wintered in Hurghada during winters of 2021-22 and 2022-23.



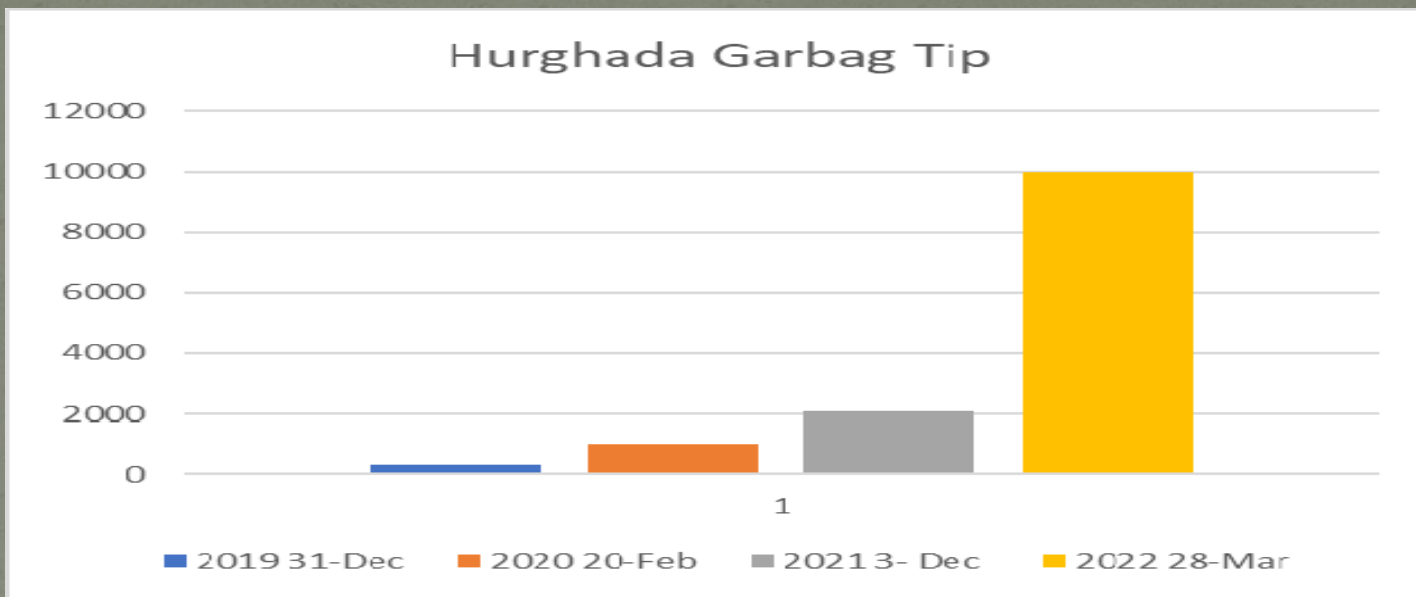
Aggregations of Steppe Eagles after Sunset



Movements of a Steppe eagle in Hurghada



A summary of the Over winter and stopover Steppe Eagle during the survey



Hurghada Garbag Tip				
	2019	2020	2021	2022
31-Dec				
20-Feb				
3-Dec				
28-Mar				
	300	1000	2100	10000















Discussions

- The tourism industry in Hurghada has been growing rapidly in recent years. In 2022, the city hosted over 13 million tourists, making it the second most popular tourist destination in Egypt after Sharm El Sheikh city.
- The food waste from this numbers of tourist represent the main source of food for Those eagles wintering in Hurghada.
- 10000 individuals almost present 10% of the world populations.
- Adult arrive first to the dumping site then Juvenile start to come from the middle of February.
- Further study is need for more details and counting hours to get more information about movement of those endangered bird.
- I did not continue my survey during 2023 due to Financial constraints and lack of my personal funds , As those previous survey is based one my personal funds.

The migration and summering grounds of a Steppe eagle that wintered in Hurghada during winters of 2021-22 and 2022-23.



Raptors need medical care





Steppe eagles are usually caught unintentionally, and are not the main target of trappers.





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Acknowledgements

Many thanks go to Elvira secretary of the conference ,Igor for joining me during two of the counting trip in 2020 ,Dr Mahmud for permitting me to enter the dumping site & Mick Mc Grady for helping me editing & add Migration map of his bird in this paper.

Thank you

