

The diet of White-tailed Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) in South Moravia, Czech Republic

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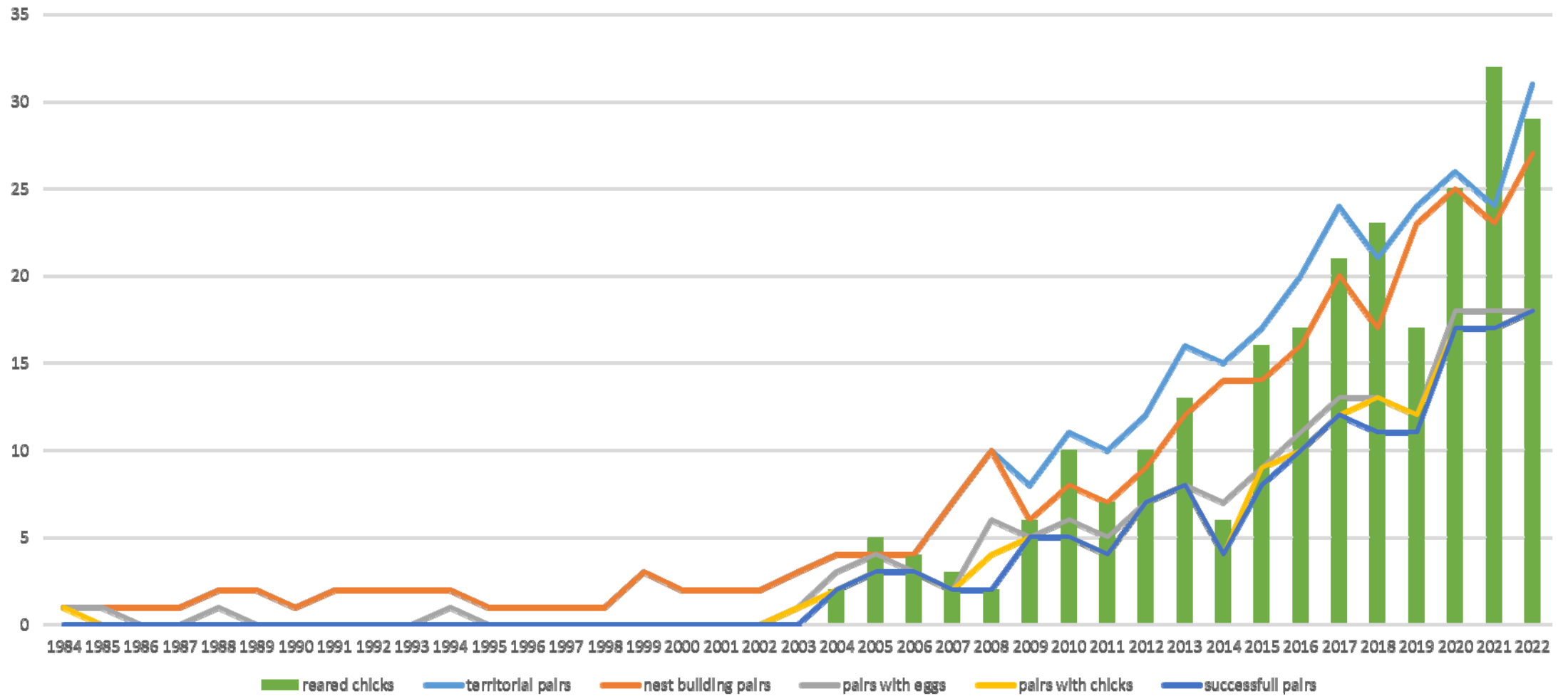
The Eagles of Palearctic, Almaty-Kazakhstan, September 24-29, 2023

White-tailed Eagle in South Moravia

- Historical breeding records until 1920s
- 1st modern-time breeding attempt 1984
- **BUT**
- 1st modern-time **SUCCESSFUL** breeding 2004 (2 pairs), i.e. after 20 years of failed attempts
- Continuous increase until over 30 pairs in 2023
- Total breeding population in CZ 160-180 pairs

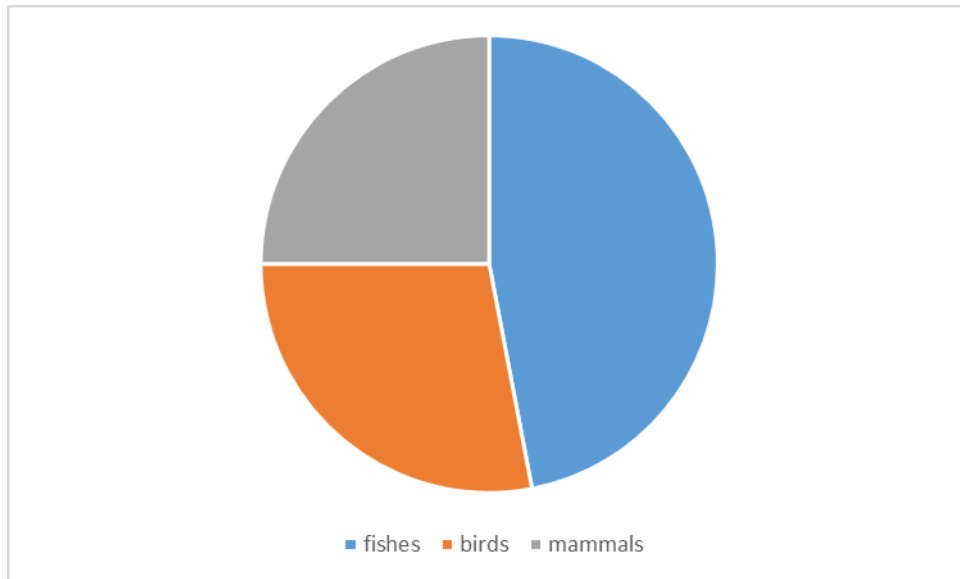


WTSE South Moravia 1984-2022



Food remains

- Collected on nests mainly during chick ringing (mainly late April to 1st half of May)
- 605 prey items collected during 97 nest-checks, 1999-2023
- Between 1 and 28 food items per nest



Results

- Fishes: 47%, birds: 28%, mammals: 25%
- The most numerous taxa:
 - Brown Hare (*Lepus europaeus*) – 151 inds (37 AD, 22 JUV, 52 indet)
 - Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) – 87
 - Silver Crucian Carp (*Carassius auratus*) – 61
 - Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) – 54 (8M, 17F, 29 indet)
 - Pike (*Esox lucius*) – 50
 - Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*) – 33

Largest fish prey items:

- Chub (*Leuciscus cephalus*) 40-45 cm
- Bream (*Abramis* sp.) 40 cm
- Silver Crucian Carp (*Carassius auratus*) 30 cm
- Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) 40 cm
- Pike (*Esox lucius*) 50-60 cm / 2.5-3 kg
- Pikeperch (*Sander lucioperca*) 45-50 cm / 1 kg
- Wels (*Silurus glanis*) min 45 cm



S. glanis, estimated min 45 cm (Lanžhot 2022)

Maximum amount of fish prey items per nest

- 13 Silver Crucian Carps (*Carassius auratus*)
- 11 Carps (*Cyprinus carpio*)
- 11 Pikes (*Esox lucius*)



1 – 13 *C. auratus* (Klentnice 2021), 2 – 9 *C. auratus* (Týnec 2023)



1 – 4 *E. lucius*
(Lanžhot 2022),
2 – 9 *E. lucius*
(Lednice 2020),
3 and 4
numerous birds
(Lednice 2020)

Interesting species

- Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)
- Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*)
- Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*)
- Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)



1 – *Anas penelope* (Lednice 2020),
2 – *Abramis* sp. 40 cm (Lanžhot 2021)

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A bald eagle is perched on a nest constructed from a dense pile of dry sticks and straw. The eagle's dark feathers are prominent, and several white eggs are scattered around it on the nest. The background shows a lush green forest with trees and foliage.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!