

Nimrod's Movements in 2009

Spring Migration

27th March 2009

Nimrod was at his main roost until 6 am, then out of the river at 7 am presumably hunting, back on the edge of the marsh at 8 am and back to his main roost at 9 am. It looked like a normal day but by 10 am Nimrod had started his great migration north and was flying N at 30 km/h. At 11 am he was much further up the river and at midday was flying NNE at 58 km/h at 678 metres. He crossed the river Corubal and headed inland and at 4 pm was still flying NNW north of Gaba. An hour later he had crossed the Senegal border and was soaring at 862 metres altitude. By 6 pm he had settled to roost SW of Kounkane in Senegal. His day's flight was 220 kilometres.

28th March 2009

Nimrod from flew a few kilometres to a large of reservoir where he stayed until after 9 am. An hour later he was to the north flying north and at 11 am he was flying at 50 km/h NNW at 313 metres just three kilometres to the east of The Gambia. Nimrod crossed the Gambia River near Velingara at midday and continued flying strongly NE to N At 2 pm he flew to the east of Tambacounda. Continuing north over the higher ground he started to gain height and at 4 pm he was flying NE at 50 km/h at 1497 metres (the land is just 60 metres). At 6 pm he was at a night roost in scrub land, after a journey of 243 kilometres.

29th March 2009

Nimrod was at roost until 9am and then an hour later was soaring and gaining height. At 11 am he was flying north east at 48 km/h and just after midday he crossed the Senegal River just upstream of Bakel and headed into Mauritania. He continued flying north at between 32 and 76km/h and the last signal at 3 pm hour he was still flying north heading for Kiffa. He roosted in area of small lakes and had flown another 265 kilometres.

30th March 2009

Nimrod around roost area until 10am, then flew ENE to an area of Alkes near Melgue el Ouridane. Migration north had started by 1pm and he passed to the east of Kiffa. At 3pm was flying at 50km/h NNW at 578 metres and then passed through an amazing area of desert with isolated mountains, like Tamount Goassi. He roosted on the rocky massif after covering 185 kilometres.

1st April 2009

At 2pm had flown over the Passe d'Amogjar heading for northern Mauritania and was flying north at 56km/h. He flew north into the SE corner corner of Western Sahara, north of Choum and roosted the night south of the huge iron mine at Fderik. 228 kilometres further along the migration. 31st March Perched on the massif until 10am, and then flying north at 11am at 66km/h; Nimrod continued north and at 1pm was soaring at 1173 metres over Guelb Debarh. The early afternoon he was flying over sandy deserts and then at 5pm was flying at 57 km/h NNE at 124 metres over the Massif de Sbaya. Continued NE to NW over the massif and at 8pm was roosting in large zone of big sand dunes with scattered bushes.

4th April 2009

On 4th April at 8pm GMT, he was flying strongly 80 km/h over the Atlantic Ocean 42 kilometres off the Moroccan coast north of Laayoune - apparently following his southward maritime track. An hour later he had turned ENE towards the coast flying at 20 km/h at 550 metres, and had abandoned his direct over Ocean route. At 10pm (in night conditions) he was 20 kms closer to the coast but still 80 kilometres offshore - he was now flying ESE at 31 km/h and was down to 6 metres above the waves - probably flying against an offshore wind. A worrying situation but the first non GPS position of today (7th April) shows he did make it safely back to the coast, and has now crossed the Straits of Gibraltar and at 4.12am GMT was in the hills 3 kilometres east of Facinas, north of Tarifa. He's probably at a small reservoir nestling in the hills, which are covered in wind turbines, so he needs to be careful. He's now reached Europe but still has a good run to get back home and start breeding.

Nimrod's satellite transmitter is on a 3 day transmission, so up dates are longer than the other two birds. Tonight's check showed that he had reached southern Morocco - at 7.30 pm he was near Tan-Tan, about 300 kms south of Agadir. On the night of 31stMarch/1st April he had roosted on the Adrar plateau south of Chinguett1; he then flew north through the SE corner of Western Sahara and

roosted the night in deserts south of the Fderik iron ore mine in northern Mauritania. The night of 2nd/3rd April he was roosting in the desert north of the mine. Some hourly transmissions were missing suggesting he was stuck in dust storms, which obscure the sun on the solar panel. But he has now cleared most of the hostile areas and today should reach his first fishing opportunities in Morocco.

7th - 8th April 2009

Nimrod reached the San Rafael Navallana-Cordoba reservoir at 3pm, and was out fishing at 4pm; and then roosted overnight in open woodland at the NW side of the reservoir. Next day he was flying north at 11am GMT and at midday was flying at 37km/h at 1544 metres to the east of Pozoblanco. He roosted at the eastern end of the Cazalegas reservoir to the SW of Madrid.

Later signals came in, which showed that Nimrod had set off north in the morning, and at 7am was already flying north in the mountains west of Jimena de la Frontera and at 9am was heading for Prado del Rey. Unfortunately, the next transmission will be in three days time when he should have reached north Spain or France.

9th April 2009

Nimrod had left by 10am when he was flying N at 65 km/h - he appeared to have a following wind, because an hour later he was SE of Avila, still flying fast at 64km/h at 125 metres. The next signal (still waiting for the complete transmission) was at 9pm when he was roosting in a wood on Ile d'Oleron, on west coast of France. He was one kilometre NW of the village of Chaucre. The day's flights was a staggering 700 kilometres in 12 hours - which suggests he took the shortest route and had a strong tail wind, and that he cut the corner of the Bay of Biscay. We'll see when the full data comes in.

Well the data came in this evening - and what an incredible flyer and navigator - he flew 723 kilometres between 9.40am GMT and 8.30pm GMT - that's a mean hourly speed of 66km/h (41mph). He hardly deviated from the fastest track and the other amazing feature was that he flew at a very high altitude for a migrating osprey - up to 1695 metres (5500 feet) above the waves of the Bay of Biscay - normal height is several hundred metres. He was presumably picking up a faster tail wind.

Nimrod was still at his roost at 9am GMT, and must have left sometime around 9.40am, for he was flying at 65km/h due N at 955 metres at 10am. He flew

through a col in the mountain range west of Madrid. At 11am he was flying N at 1295 metres and then passed Villacastin, at midday he was flying at 68 km/h NNE at 1136 metres. He passed Bernardos and then east of Cuellar. At 1pm he was flying lower towards the mountains and at 2pm was 1270 metres over Burgos flying at 95km/h NNE. He dropped his altitude heading for Bilbao and at 3pm crossed over Portugalete on the Bilbao estuary, and then left the Basque coast near Armintza, where the cliffs are 160 metres. He was 4 kms offshore at 4pm and was flying at 85 km/h NNE at 1671 metres above the sea. An amazing height. He kept up this high speed of 82-85 km/h across the Bay of Biscay, at 6pm he was 55 kms west of Cap Ferret, and he was at 1695 metres altitude. At 8pm, after dark but with a moon, he dropped to 5 metres above the sea and was 14 kilometres off Ile d'Oleron heading for the island, which he probably reached about 8.30pm. He roosted in a wood on the island after a most amazing day's flight. The fastest I've known and certainly living up to his name!

10th April 2009

Nimrod at the roost at 5am and 6am: the weather is poor in that area, rain with clouds and a 13mph south wind. Last night he was 35 kilometres south of his autumn stop-over north of La Rochelle. At 1025am GMT he was 133 kilometres further north over Nantes, heading for the English Channel. The next transmission is due in 3 days and at this speed he might be home in Moray. Checked his nest at 3.45pm this afternoon and his mate had arrived during the day - she was eating a fish on the old nest - she looked very thin and in need of a good fish to fill her crop. Little does she know that she will have to fish for herself for another three days before Nimrod gets back.

Data received 13th April: at 11 am GMT, he was 33 kms north on the estuary of the River Lay, where he stopped over last October, At midday, he was flying north east at 40 km/h to the east of La Roche-sur-Yon. He continued to fly north, and was near Geneston at 2 pm. An hour later, he was perched by a small tributary of the River Loire, south east of Nantes, and upstream from Portillon. He roosted overnight in trees near a backwater. The day's flight was 130 kms. Position of Ile d'Oleron and last night's roost site on the island.

11th April 2009

Nimrod moved downstream from 4am to 6am, and then flew north west over Nantes. At 7am, he was flying at 33 km/h west, near Sautron. At 8am, he was flying north and at 9am he was flying west-north-west at 34 km/h, at 33m altitude, near Guenrouet. He was clearly finding the poor weather conditions not to his liking for migration, and after making small movements further north, by midday

he was hunting over a small reservoir at Vay. Then, for the rest of the day, he was perched in the Foret du Gavre. His day's journey was only 118 kms.

12th April 2009

He was heading north at 8am, and at 9am, he was perched further north near Besle. Again, the weather was preventing strong migration, although at 11am, he was flying at 53 km/h north-north-west at 495 m, near La Bourdonnaye. An hour later, he was still flying strongly to the north-north-west, but by 2pm, he had stopped for the day at a reservoir near Boudelan in Brittany.

13th April 2009

I checked Nimrod's nest at 7am this morning and just like the last two days, the female and a new male have been building up the nest and mating; and the intruding male, yellow/black HA, has brought back fish for the female. So when Nimrod gets back he will need to chase off this male. It's another beautiful sunny day and I expect Nimrod to come flying in at any moment, and I'll check later in the day. The male HA is 6 years old, I ringed him on 8th July 2003 and so far he has not found a mate and a nest. 5pm still no sign of Nimrod I'll go home and see if there are any satellite signals for him and find out why he's not here. Data received this evening: Nimrod at last had good weather, and left the reservoir after 8am. At 10am he was flying directly north at 63 km/h, near Megrit, and he left the Brittany coast at Fort-la-Latte. At 11am, he was flying at 73 km/h due north over the sea at 853 m, heading for the Channel Islands. At 12am GMT, he was over the small island of Jethou, just to the east of Jersey, flying north-north-west at 79 km/h, and 777 m above the island. At 2pm BST, he was approaching the Dorset coast, flying north at 85 km/h, and 1145 m above the sea. He came ashore west of Abbotsbury on the Dorset coast, and at 3pm was continuing at high speed, flying at 90 km/h due north over Toller Whelme, near Beominster. The last signal of the day was a non GPS at 6.39pm, when he was at Llanfechain in north Wales, 9 miles south west of Oswestry. At last, he had got a good day and had already done 516 kms, probably more, before he settled to roost.

Later signal at 7.30pm, Nimrod was flying north over the sea 5 miles NW of Hoylake, so he could make Morecambe Bay by dusk - and knowing him - will he fly by the moon and be home by morning! I'll look for him tomorrow but later in the day.

GPS data now in showed Nimrod midway between Isle of Man and Cumbrian coast at 9pm, flying at 85km/h NW at 994 metres above the sea; he came ashore

at Burrow Head, Kirkcudbright, and was at roost at the edge of a wood at 11pm just south of Glasserton.

14th April 2009

Nimrod at roost at 5am, but an hour later was already heading NNE near Sorbie. At 7am he was flying NNE near the A714 between Loch Trool and Loch Ochiltree - the easterly winds and foggy conditions in eastern Scotland were pushing him west all day. At 8am he was flying NE at 26km/h just east of Kirkmichael in Ayrshire, and an hour later was flying at 30km/h NNE over Prestwick airport. At 10am he was perched east of Kilwinning and then flew NNW over Fairlie on the Ayc coast at 11am. Midday saw him flying NNE 31 metres above the Clyde just outside the Holy Loch. Turning NE he flew up Loch Long and at 1pm was heading for Loch Lomond. The mountains to the north were cloud covered so he tracked easterly to Loch Doine, and at 3pm was just south of Loch Tay. At 4pm he appeared to be fishing on the River Tay just upstream from Aberfeldy. He crossed over Pitlochry, and abandoned his attempt to get through the mountains. He roosted overnight in a small wood by Loch Crannach. Flying north to avoid the east coast haar and easterly winds 14th April.

15 April 2009: Last leg home

At 11am, Nimrod was flying over the top of Glen Esk as he headed north for Deeside flying N at 28km/h at 615 metres. At midday he was perched by a small loch on the north side of Lochnagar and was still there an hour later, but he soon headed north as at 2pm he was flying over the road from Bridge of Brown to Grantown on Spey, just east of Nethybridge. Passing over Grantown he was near the Glenferness fishery at 3pm and back perched near his nest at 4pm. By chance I was at his nest at 3.25pm and saw him attempt to land at the nest which must have been his arrival. But he was having trouble with yellow HA, which had paired up with his old mate. Now he had to fight for his nest. He was back at Glenferness from 5pm and roosted overnight in a wood there.

16th April 2009

Cold grey misty day with haar coming off the North Sea; checked nest in afternoon and just the female perched above the nest. The GPS data showed that Nimrod flew to the nest from Glenferness at 9am, probably with a fish, and was perched at or near the nest at 10am and 11am, so may be he has won the contest. We'll see in the next few days.

Summer

24 April 2009

Nimrod perched on the branch above the nest at 11am; his mate standing on the eyrie, calling for food.

15 May 2009

During May, Nimrod has been busy catching fish for his mate and taking turns at incubating. The GPS data showed he roosts close to the nest nearly every night. He has been ranging on fishing trips from Lochindorb in the south north to Findhorn Bay (18 miles) and from Nairn east into the Moray hill lochs (15 miles).

28 June 2009

Nimrod and his mate now have at least one small chick in their nest - when I checked with my telescope I saw one chick shuffling towards the female on the edge of the nest (less than a week old) and there could have been other chicks asleep in the nest. As they get bigger we will be able to check how many chicks they have.

10 July 2009

Nimrod is busy fishing every day for his brood of chicks, and is ranging in an area - 9 miles by 18 miles - visiting Lochindorb in the south, to Findhorn Bay and Culbin Bar in the north.

14 July 2009

Another very wet day and when I checked at midday the female was standing on the nest sheltering chicks and she was sodden wet. In the evening she was perched on the top branch looking very wet and bedraggled, it had at last stopped raining, and one young showed itself briefly over the edge of the nest. I'm still not sure of the number of chicks. Nimrod continued to range widely for fish.

04 August 2009

Nimrod's single chick is now starting to flap on the nest; on 2nd I was watching the nest and the female came in with a stick and has been busy nest building. Nimrod has spent nearly all his time hunting along the Culbin Bar and coast for fish, with three recorded visits to Findhorn bay, and only once to the Achagour fishery at Glenferness. He has also started spending some nights roosting in Culbin Forest rather than near the nest site.

09 August 2009

Nimrod busy catching fish and mainly feeding along the shore from Nairn bar to Findhorn bay, with much time spent inside Culbin Bar.

10 August 2009

Checked out the nest this afternoon, and Nimrod's big youngster was sitting in the eyrie preening feathers. Nimrod mainly fishing at Nairn and Culbin Bars.

17 August 2009

Nimrod has fished the inner coastline from Nairn to the SE corner of Findhorn Bay in the last week, with a couple of visits to the Achagour Fishery south of Nairn.

26 August 2009

I was last at the nest on the 18th, when both parents and their chick were still present, and I watched Nimrod flying over the nest and landing in one of the trees at the back. From the satellite data he has been spending most nights recently near the nest and also many times during the day. He was once inland at Glenferness but most times he has been down along the shore at Culbin Forest on fishing trips.



Nimrod (red dots) and Talisman (white dots) 21st-25th August

07 September 2009

Nimrod was roosting close to his nest last night at 8pm; and has been visiting Achagour Fishery south of Nairn, as often as visiting Culbin Bars. Last year he set off on 19th September.

Autumn Migration

16 September 2009: He's off!

Nimrod was flying back to his nest from the fishery at Achagour at 7am, and then loafed around the old nest site until at least 11am. And then it was off to Africa after another summer breeding in Scotland. He set off south-east round the Cairngorms, passing over Tomintoul at midday and carrying on south-east high across the grouse moors of Aberdeenshire and Angus, and then down over the farmlands to head out over the Tay estuary just west of Carnoustie at 2pm. He crossed the East Neuk of Fife and head across the Firth of Forth to the Bass Rock and came ashore at Tynninghame at 3pm, flying south at 54km/h at 296 metres altitude. He then flew down over the borders and crossed into England just west of Coldstream, and at 5pm he was flying SSE at 62km/h over a Rothbury in Northumberland.

Nimrod flew over Newcastle and at Sunderland he turned south at 6pm; he flew on east of Northallerton and at 8pm he was flying south at 68km/h at 730 metres above Kippax, east of Leeds. He flew on into the dusk and an hour later was much more to the West flying SW of the Peak District at 75km/h. This was the last signal of the day but it did not appear that he stopped flying immediately.

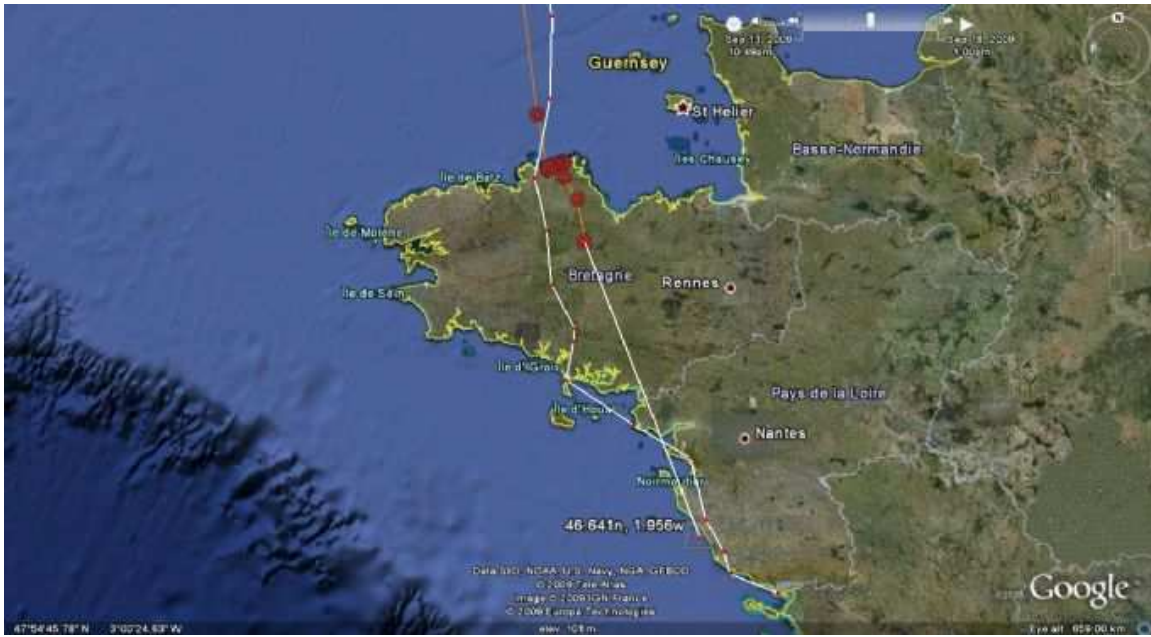
17 September 2009: From Wales to Brittany

At 7am, he was flying SW and 65km/h north west of Builth Wells, in Wales; and an hour later was over Ammanford; he turns south over Swansea and set off out to sea over of the Mumbles. At 9am he was flying south at 49km/h 66 metres above the sea heading for North Devon. He came ashore near Ilfracombe and carried on south and at 10am was flying south at 63km/h 600 feet above the north end of Braunton Burrows. At 11am he was perched on the sand flats in the estuary of the River Taw, opposite Appledore, almost certainly eating the fish, possibly a mother from the estuary. At midday he was over Great Torrington and at 2pm he was high over Dartmoor and he turned to the east and then south near Totnes, and flew out into the English Channel to the east of Salcombe. And that was the last GPS signal of the batch, but any non-GPS signal at 5.48pm showed he just had 40 kilometres to go for the coast of Brittany. I wonder if he will roost there and then head for last year's stop over north of La Rochelle. His two-day flight from his nest at this point was 652 miles (1049 kms).



18 September 2009

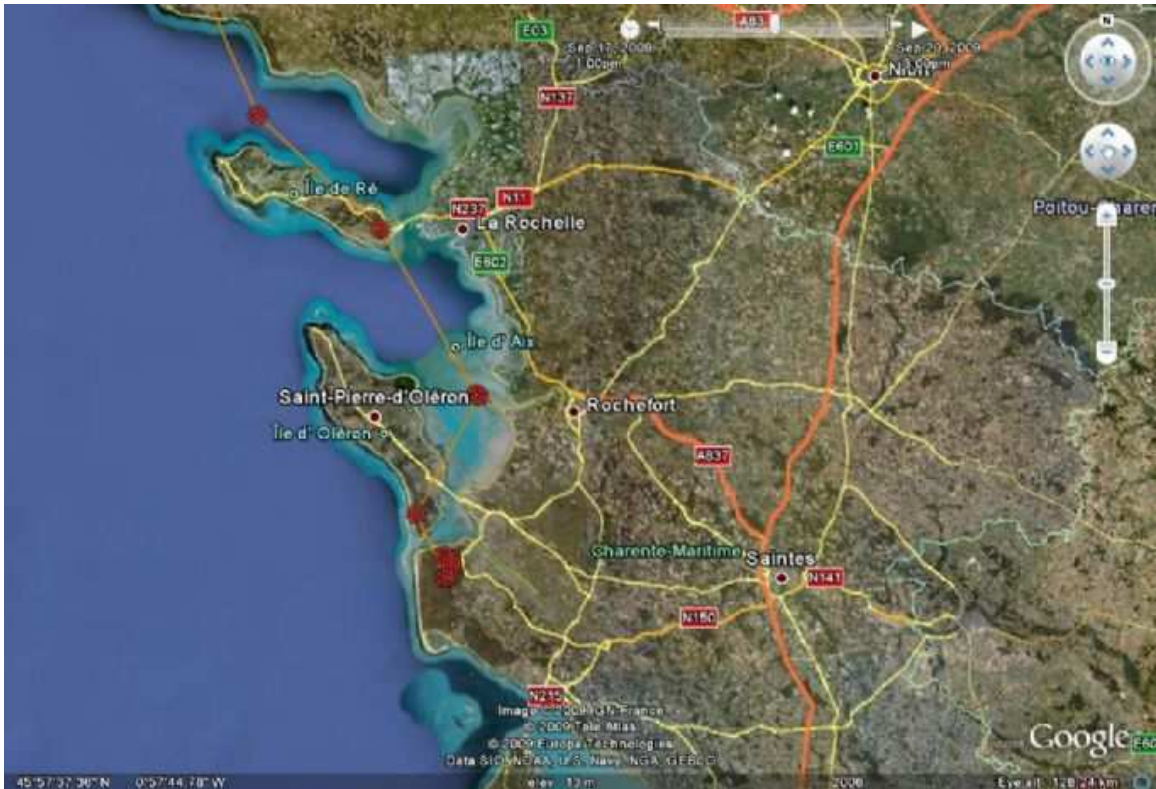
Last evening he roosted in a clump of trees in farmland west of Penvenan, just south of the coast. This morning he flew east to a bigish estuary north of Treguier, where he was perched at 0800 and 0900GMT - presumably eating fish. The estuary is probably full of mullet. After 1000GMT he set off south and an hour later was flying SSW at 46km/h near Plonmagoar. The last GPS signal was at midday when he was flying SE at 508 metres altitude over Brittany. At 1750GMT he had travelled 277 kilometres and was heading down the coast, possibly to last year's stopover. The second line on the map below is the 2008 track compared to this year (red dots plus line).



2008 and 2009 tracks

20 September 2009

Nimrod has travelled down the coast, missing his last autumn's stopover, he flew via Ile de Re and Ile Saint Pierre- d'Oleron, to spend time in the estuary at the south end of the island and roosting in pinewoods on the mainland.



23 September 2009

Nimrod has settled in the area south of Ile d'oleron; roosting in the woods on the peninsula south of the island, near La Tremblade, and hunting in the estuary. If this is his stopover it's a good number of kilometres south of last autumn's location.

25 September 2009

Nimrod is spending time on Ile d'Oleron and the peninsula to the south, and is clearly on a stopover. Wonder how long he will stay. He was overtaken by Talisman who flew south past this area today.

26 September 2009

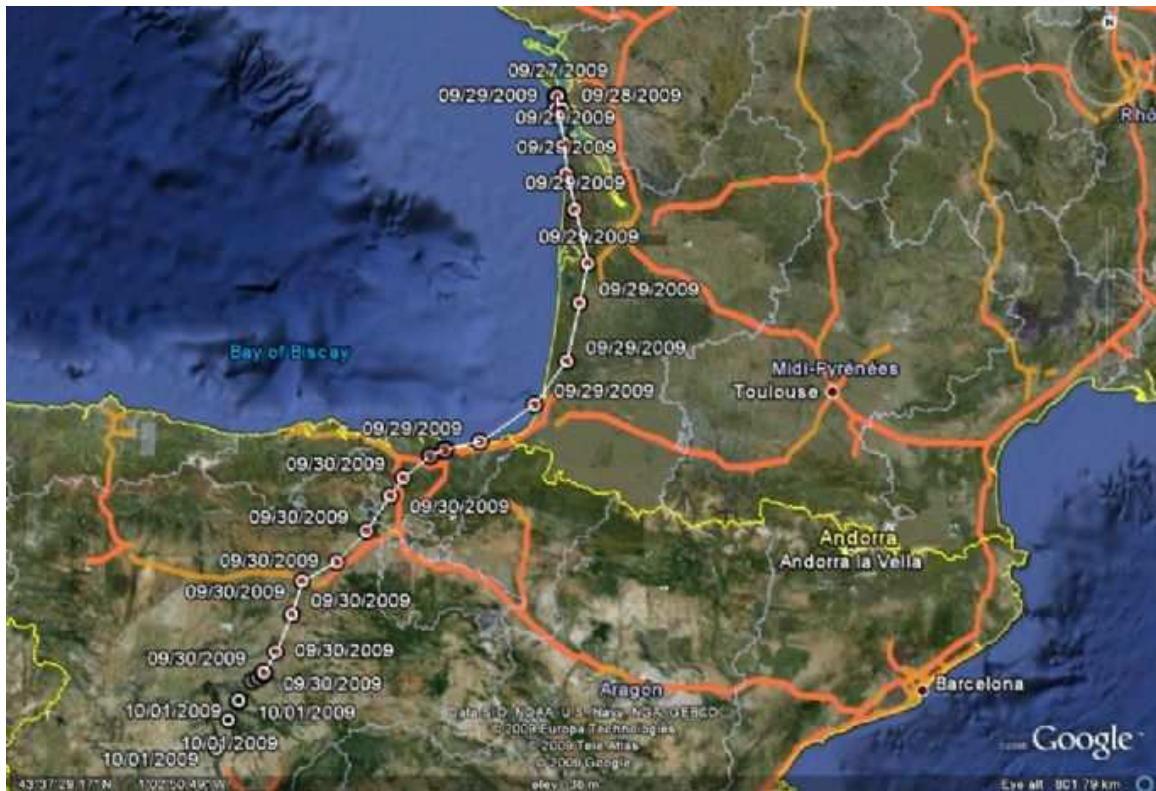
Still at stopover site.



Locations in last week

29 September 2009: Nimrod sets off South

Nimrod set off south at 10am this morning from his relatively short stopover on Ile d'Oleron, and by evening had covered 248 kilometres and was just north of the Pyrennees. He then cut the corner of the Bay in Biscay to arrive on the north coast of Spain. He roosted overnight in the wooded hills to the west of Olatz. His days travel was 344 kilometres.



01 October 2009

Nimrod set off early today and at 0700GMT was already flying SSE at 44km/h. Between 2 and 3pm, he crossed over the Sierra de Gredos west of Madrid. At 1700GMT he was flying south at 55km/h at 1367 metres. An hour later he was south of Aguda and at 2000GMT (last transmission of the day) he was still flying SSW at 48km/h at 1175 metres above Espiel and heading out of the lowlands near Seville. He roosted for the night between Arahal and Utrera, and his day's journey was 520 km.

02 October 2009

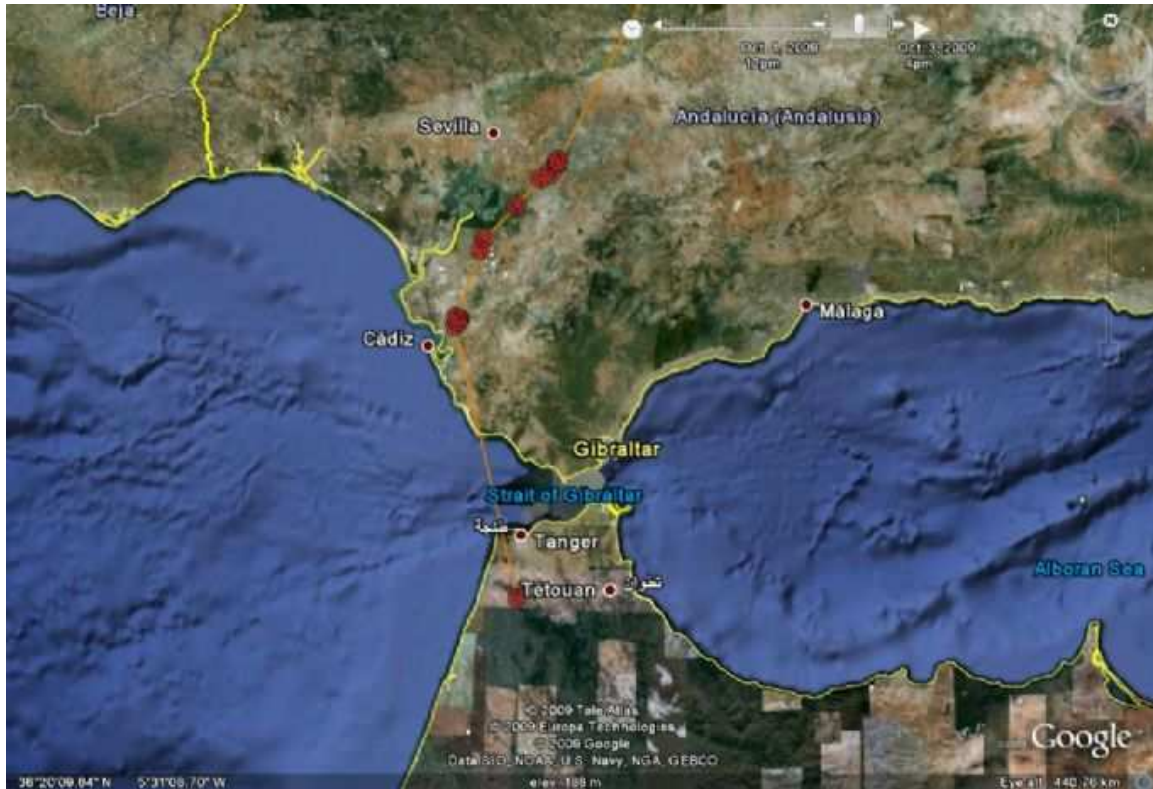
Nimrod was just SE of Seville early this morning, and set off at 9 AM to the south-west past Lebrija. He carried on South over Jerez de la Frontera, and came to roost after a short day's journey of 87 kms near El Portal.



Track over Spain

03 October 2009: Into Africa

Nimrod spent the morning on local flights in the eastern parts of the Bay of Cadiz, and strongly due to the weather he did not set off a migration until midday when he was flying SSE at 52km/h north east of Chiclana. At 1pm he was just north of the pine woods at Cape Trafalgar and probably set out over the sea from there, as an hour later he was over the sea 8 km north of Tangier flying SSE at 169 m above the sea. He continued flying strongly to the south or SSW through Northern Morocco, and at 1800GMT was flying S over the sea North of Kenitra. He continued to fly over the sea tracking the coast being 19 km off Rabat at 7pm. He was flying SW at 56km/h at 472 metres so seemed to be on determined migration and this was still the case at 8pm (last transmission) when he was flying S at 51km/h at 444 metres off Dar el-Buda.



04 October 2009

By 0600GMT was 430 km further on his journey and so must have been flying all night and average speed of 43km/h. At dawn he was well out into the Atlantic Ocean (heading for the Canary Islands!) and at 0600 hours to turn back to wards the coast flying at 41km/h 60 m above the sea and he was 95 km NW of Agadir. 4 hours later he had made back to the Moroccan coast at Tiznit. He then flew slowly down the coast and spent from 1pm to 3pm on a headland south of Mirhfelt; and then moved inland and roosted for the night on top of a small hill.



05 October 2009

He must have been tired after overnight flight over the ocean and today he travelled just 148 kilometres down the Moroccan coast and roosted for the night and just north of Tan-Tan.



06 October 2009

Nimrod left his night roost before 1000GMT and flew steadily south. At midday he was flying SSE at 43km/h, and 2 hours later was flying SW at 41km/h at 794 metres and had passed into West Sahara. By 3 PM he had turned south and had risen to 1002 metres over the desert. At 5 PM he was still flying SW at 45km/h and 1140 metres altitude, before descending before 18:00 hours GMT to roost in the open desert, 34 km west of Smara. The day's journey was 231 kms.



08 October 2009

By 9 AM he was flying west at 56km/h over the desert and apparently heading for the Atlantic coast instead of heading south over the deserts. At 1300GMT, Nimrod was perched just inland from the Atlantic coast near Uad el caabait, and an hour later was again perched beside the sea coast 10 miles further south. I think he had caught a fish in the sea, and then at 3 PM was flying again at 68km/h SSE inland, and by 6 PM was roosting in the open desert after travelling 357 kms.



09 October 2009: Into Mauritania

Nimrod headed for the coast again at 10 AM when he was flying south west at 63km/h. At 11 AM he was perched on the beach presumably eating a fish. He then continued south along the coast, flying at 86 km/h S at 1400GMT. He crossed the border into Mauritania, and passed over Bon Lanuar. At 5 PM he was flying SSE at 59km/h tracking the coast over the Banc d Arguin National Park. At 6 PM he was roosting in desert between the N2 road and the coast. His day's flight was 345 kilometres.



10 October 2009

Today he had already set off by 0700GMT when he was flying WSW towards the coast; the next 2 hours or more he was perched at the edge of Banc d'Arguin coast where he would have caught his morning fish. He then flew steadily down the coast, including a short stretch over the sea after midday, and at 1045GMT he passed Morven in her wintering quarters, and though he was offshore and over 500 m above the sea. At 2 PM he was flying south at 73km/h and had risen to 1932 metres above the coast, and just before 3 PM had flown over Nouakchott, capital of Mauritania, at 1539 metres altitude and speed of 84km/h. At 7 PM he crossed the Senegal border still flying south and a little later roosted in a desert area of salt pans to the east of St Louis. His day's flight was 452 kms.



11 October 2009: Migrating through Senegal

Nimrod left his roost and by 8am was perched on the west bank of the big freshwater lake, Lac de Griers, where he presumably fished because an hour later he was perched further south beside the lake. At 10 AM he was migrating and flew east of Louga, and then flew steadily south at speeds of up to 71km/h, passing just east of Touba at 1 PM and approaching Kafrine 2 hours later. Then he veered more to the south-east and reached the river Gambia, in The Gambia, before 6 PM. He roosted in the riverside trees north-east of Soma. His day's flight was 302 kms.



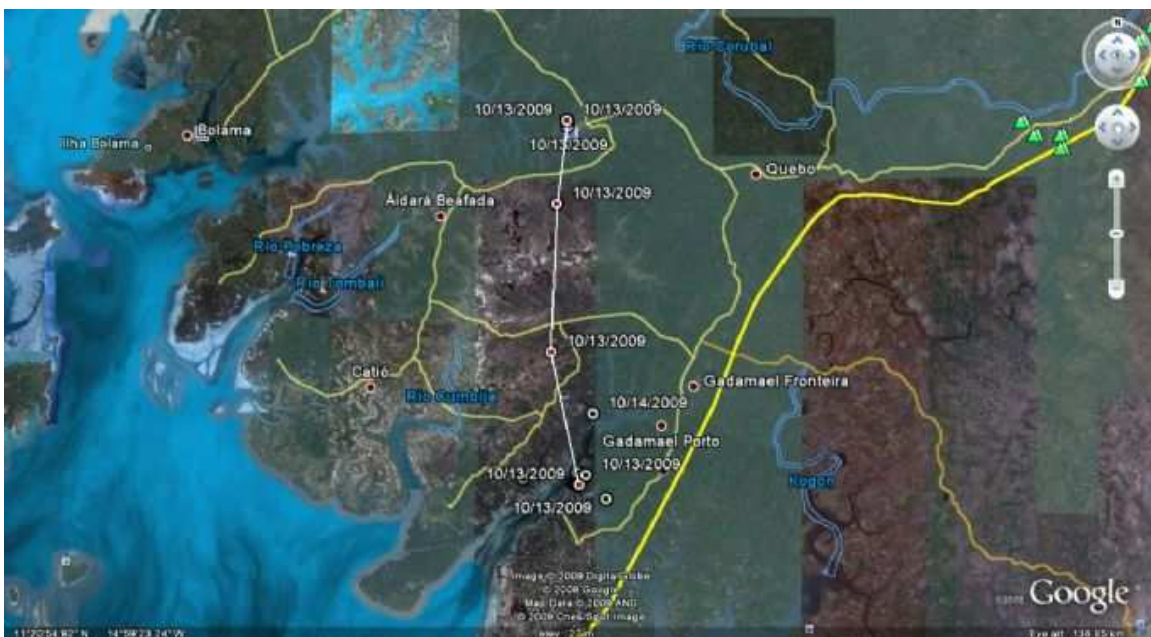
12 October 2009: Nearly there!

At 0900GMT he was still on the riverside mangroves, but an hour later was flying south at 52km/h. He crossed the Sakar to Kolda road at midday into south Senegal and an hour later had flown across the border into Guinea-Bissau. After 1500GMT he flew over the River Geba, and an hour later had crossed the Rio Corubal; he continued flying south and by 1800GMT was perched on the river's edge opposite the town of Buba. He roosted the night in the forest 500 metres inland. His day's flight was 232 kms. He nearly made it to his wintering site today as he only has 55 kms to go.



13 October 2009: Arrives in winter quarters

Nimrod was still near the roost site at 1000GMT, but an hour later was well on south towards Tombali. He flew steadily south and at 1300GMT was flying S at 48km/h at 959 metres. He did not immediately land but circled the area of last winter's home, before landing in old familiar trees after 3pm. He roosted at night in a favourite night time roost tree on the south edge of the mangroves. Nimrod is back at his exact winter home.



Last leg to last year's wintering site in Guinea Bissau



Nimrod's full Autumn migration

Winter 2009-2010

14 October 2009: Settling in

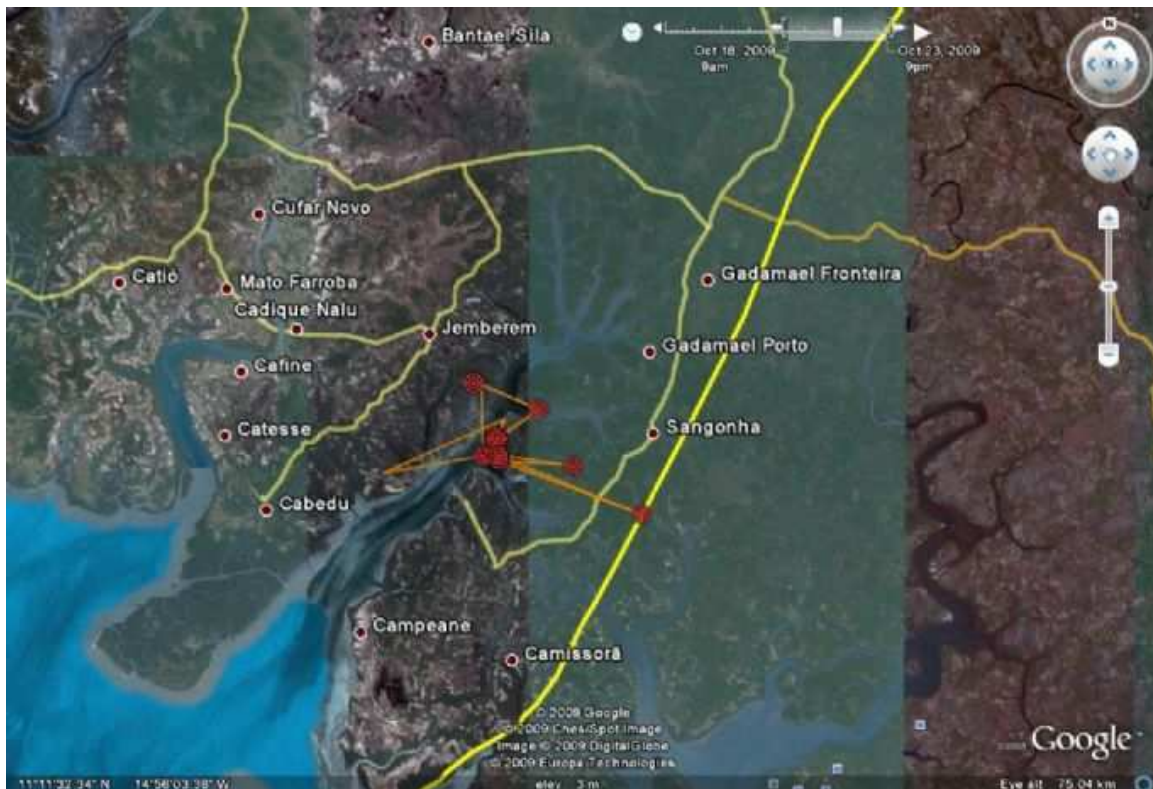
Nimrod is using the same places as last winter, although this morning at 0900GMT he was 10 kilometres to the north up the river.

17 October 2009

Nimrod has settled into his old routine and in the last 2 days has only ventured 600 metres from his main roosts.

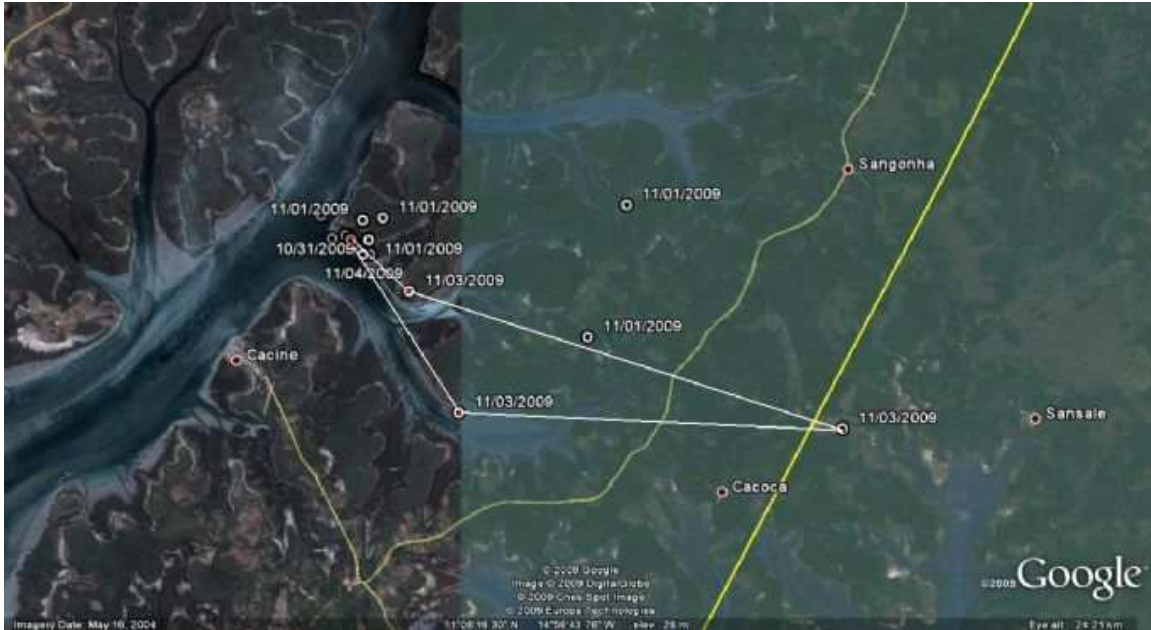
23 October 2009

Nimrod has remained in the same area, but has wandered more than last year. His longest movement was at 1100GMT on 22nd October, when he was briefly flying SE into Guinea at 17 metres above the riverine mangroves, but an hour later he was back in the usual haunts.



08 November 2009

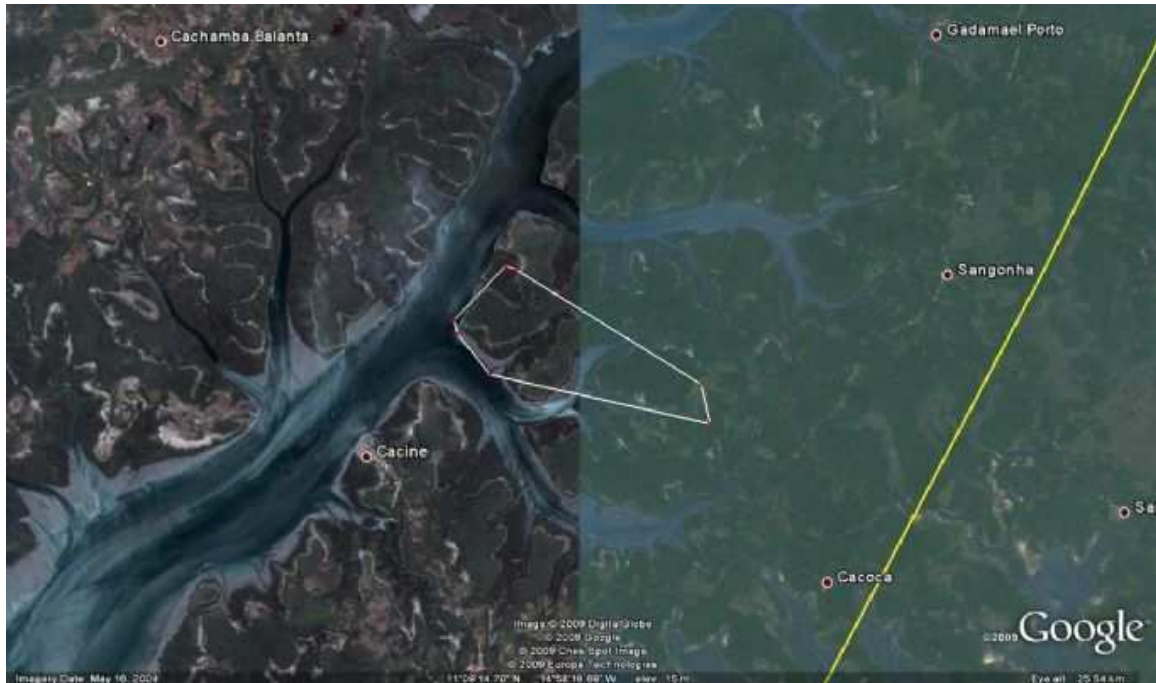
Nimrod in usual wintering site, although made one rather long trip into Guinea and back; wonder if it was solely a fishing trip or was he interacting with other wintering ospreys and having a fly around.



Nimrod's long fishing flight into Guinea and back

22 November 2009

Wintering in same area, and continuing this winter's behaviour of occasional flights towards Guinea.



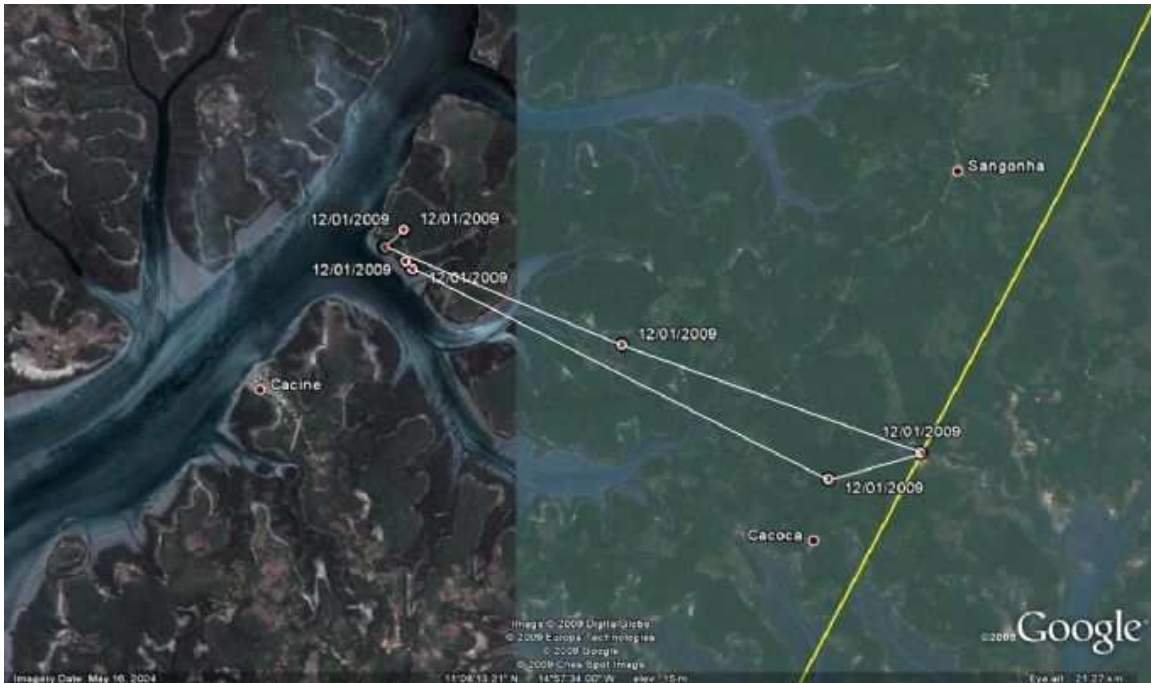
Extent of Nimrod's locations to 22nd November

28 November 2009

Now very settled at wintering site - in last 8 days all reports from within area of 0.82sq kms centred on mangrove roost.

06 December 2009

Nimrod stays mainly around his main roost site, with brief trips to fish, but on 1st December he made a longer flight. See map below. He was at his night time roost until 7am, and then moved to a perch at edge of mangroves from 8am to midday, probably ate during this period. At 1300hours he was flying at 37kms/h at 172 metres, and an hour later was perched at 9 metres on the Guinea border, 12.5 kms from the roost. At 1500 hrs he was heading home at 30 kms/h at 87 metres altitude, and then perched at a usual roost on the edge of the mangroves until 1800GMT, and moved to a different night roost at 1900 hrs.



Day's movements 1st December

14 December 2009

Nimrod in exactly the same area and in the last week has remained close to his main roosts; living in a homerange of 0.48 square kilometres.

24 December 2009

Remained close to roosts in the last ten days using area of 0.25 square kilometres.

10 January 2010

Nimrod has been very settled in the last week, and has ranged within an area of 0.9 square kilometres.

26 January 2010

Very settled at winter site, within a range of 0.61 sq kms.

08 February 2010

All locations in the last week very close to the winter roost.

20 February 2010

Nimrod ranged to other side of river on couple occasions but still in a range of only 4.7 sq kms.

26 February 2010

Nimrod is still living in a small area of mangroves and river of about 1 square kilometre.



Winter range 18-22nd February