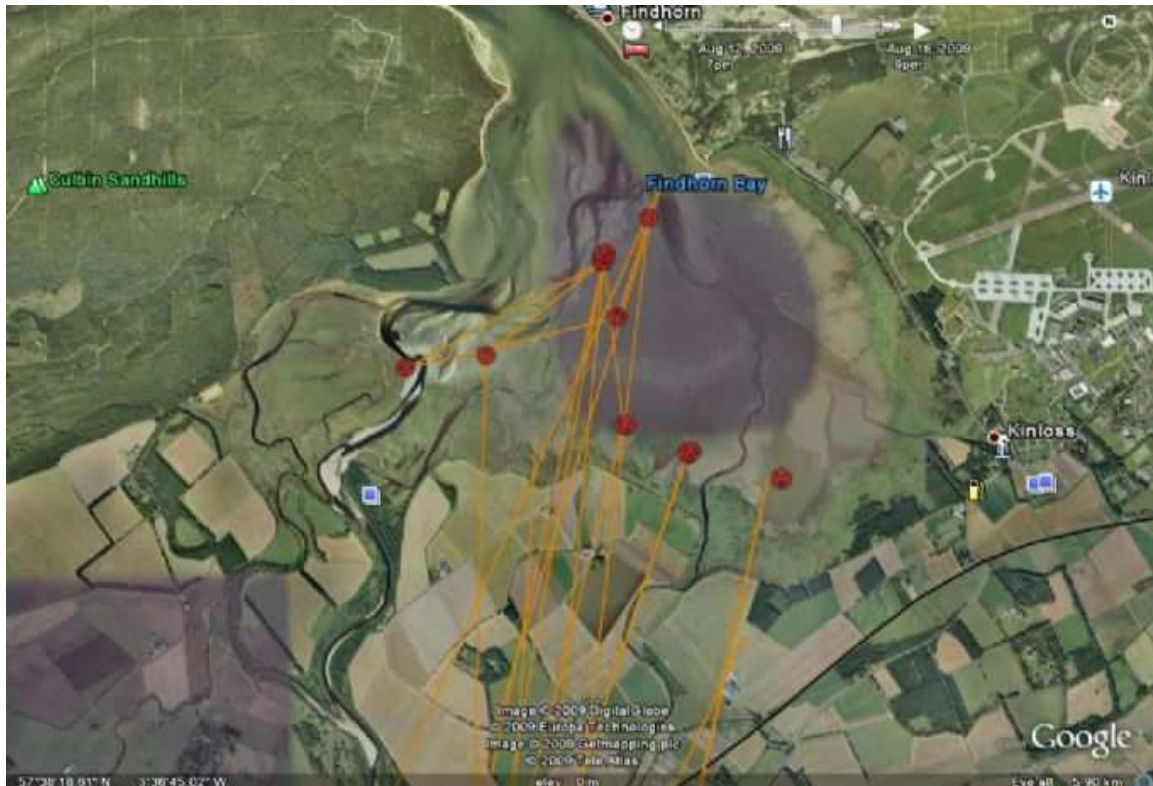


# Talisman's Movements in 2009

## Summer

**17 August 2009**

Talisman has been mainly fishing in Findhorn bay, and also sometimes in Blairs Loch.



Fishing trips to Findhorn Bay 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> August

**25 August 2009**

Talisman still bringing fish back to the eyrie for his single chick; Morven has now departed after visiting Caithness. The map below shows Talisman's locations on the coast (white dots), mainly in Findhorn bay, compared to Nimrod's locations (red dots).



### **01 September 2009**

Talisman is still mainly feeding in Findhorn bay, and in the last week I've seen him hunting flounders.

### **07 September 2009**

This morning he was perched on a dead tree in the river mouth in Findhorn Bay, and has been regularly taking fish back to the eyrie from Findhorn Bay and the outer estuary.

### **19 September 2009**

Talisman was perched in the dead Scots pine above the old eyrie at 12.25am today; the GPS data showed that at 12am he was flying towards the eyrie from Findhorn Bay, and at 1pm and 2pm he was at favourite perches in the edge of wood. He must go south soon. His mate is 2060 miles away in southern Morocco - I wonder if his chick is still here or already on migration.



Talisman's locations in Findhorn Bay

# Autumn Migration

## 22 September 2009

An early signal for 10am showed him on the way to Dallas, SE of Forres; a location he has not visited before. I think he has started his migration but will need to wait until tomorrow to make certain it's not a false start. I gather the weather is poor at home - I am in England.

## 23 September 2009

Well, he did set off and last evening roosted in a wood just south of Edlingham, and NE of Rothbury in Northumberland. A good start considering the weather. This morning at 8am he was flying south over Throckley on the western side of Newcastle. By 17.32pm, he was flying over Helmdon, SW of Northampton so he is making good time south through England.

## 24 September 2009

A beautiful day on the south coast of England where I was looking at osprey habitat in Chichester harbour and the Solent - he probably passed over me today as by nightfall he was in Brittany.

## 25 September 2009

He must have kept going as by dawn today (0419GMT) he was heading for the coast north of Bilbao, after crossing some of the Bay of Biscay. I cannot get onto my own laptop this evening to draw maps but hope to tomorrow evening.

## 27 September 2009

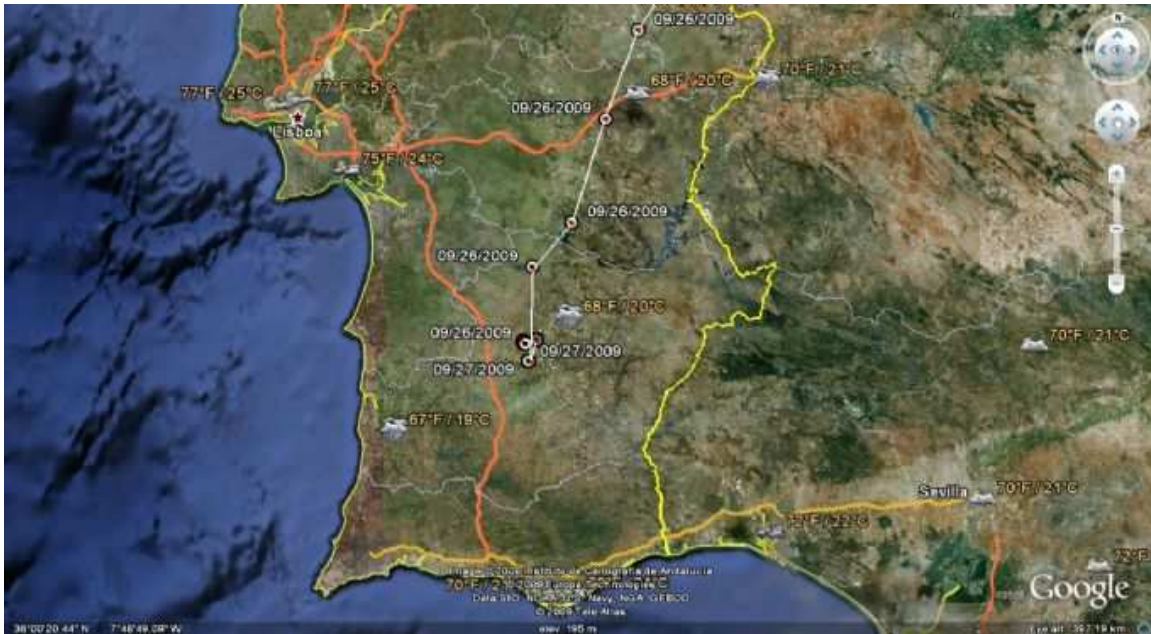
Overnight roosting north end of Gabriel y Galan reservoir west of the Sierra de Gredos mountains in Extremadura. This is the reservoir where the breeding female from nest A11 near Carrbridge wintered in 1999 and 2000, and probably still does.





**29 September 2009**

Talisman is at the Reservoir do Roxo 18 kilometres SW of Beja in Portugal. The weather is rainy so that may be why he is stopping there over last couple of days, or it may be a stopover site for him, or even a wintering site - we will see!



## 02 October 2009

Talisman still living at the reservoir, and last night roosted about 5 kilometres away in cork oak or big olive tree. Weather today, partly cloudy and sunny, with light west wind. Seems to be on a stopover so may leave soon or spend a couple weeks here.

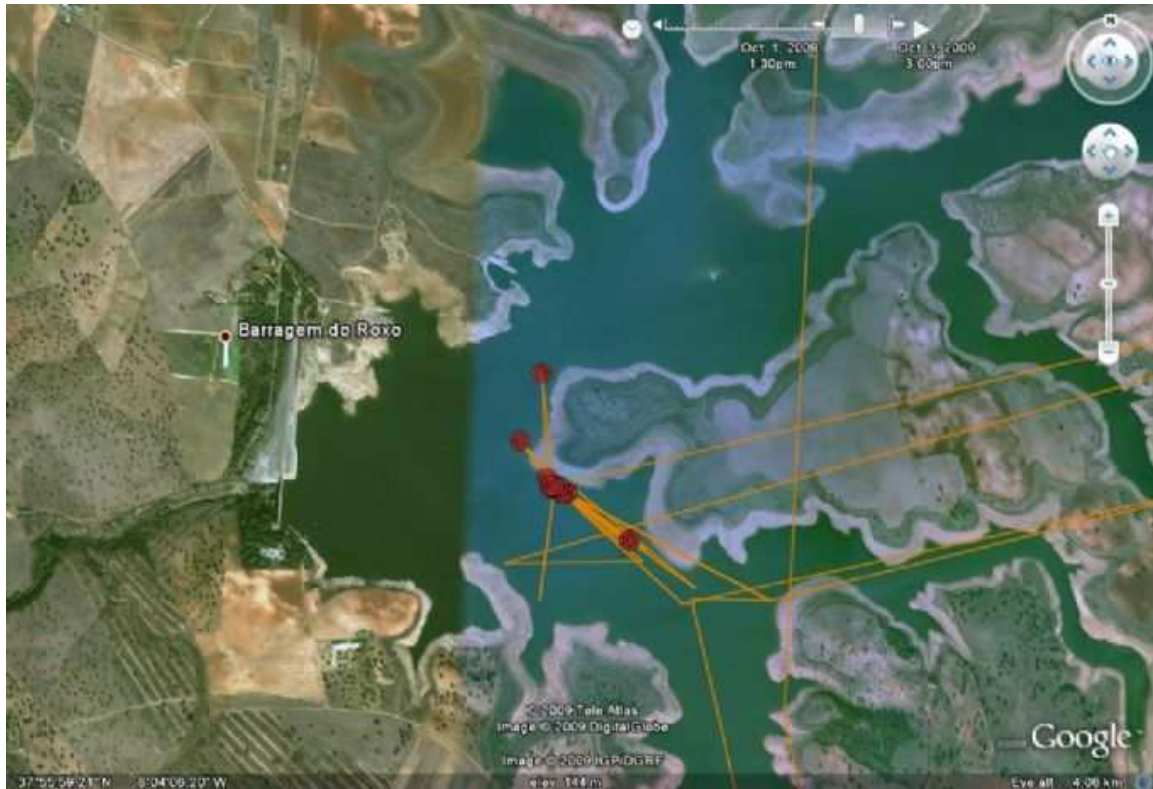


Fishing locations and night roost site

**03 October 2009**

Still at the reservoir

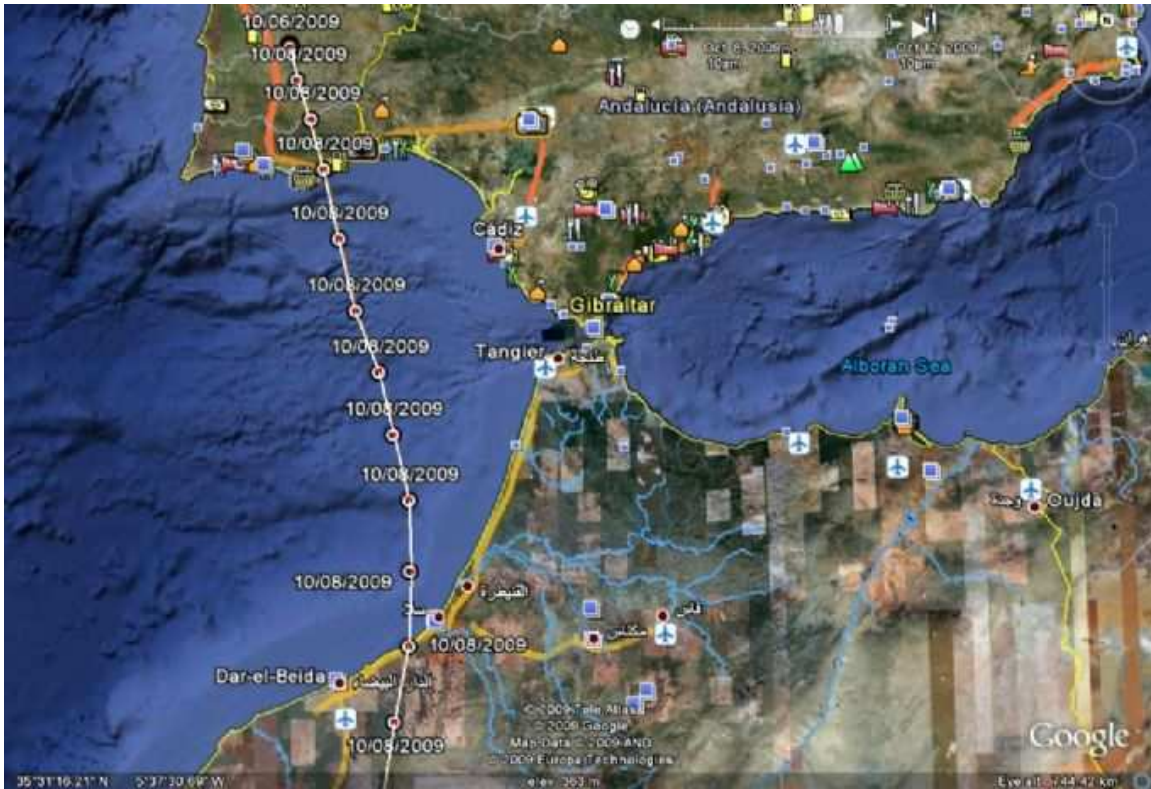




### **08 October 2009: Migration restarted**

After another few days at the reservoir, Talisman set off south just before 1000GMT and flew SSE, reaching speeds of up to 66kms/h and altitude up to 1025 metres, before crossing the south coast of Portugal to the east of Faro. He then set off over the ocean flying southeast and then south towards Morocco, and between 36 and 60kms/h. He came ashore at 1900GMT at Skhirat, south of Rabat and flew in and at the last transmission at 2000GMT was flying Southwest just north of El Gara.





The flight to Africa

### 09 October 2009

At 0600GMT Talisman was 147 kms further south so he must have carried on flying during some of the night. In the morning he was perched near El Kelaa, and then rested again further south from 7 to 9hrs. By 1000GMT he was flying south and an hour later was flying SSW at 61kms/h to the east of Marrakesh and set off over the Atlas Mountains reaching heights of 1889 metres at 1 PM, when flying south at 77kms/h. He continues south over the mountains and by 9 PM was roosting in scattered bushes in the desert east of Assa. His flight over the 2 days from Portugal was 1091 kilometres.



## 10 October 2009

He was flying before 1000GMT and set off south and SSW through Morocco, and in the afternoon and climbed to nearly 2000 metres, and crossed into Mauritania at 1800GMT. He roosted in open desert 30 kilometres south of the border. His day's flight was 358 kms over open desert.



### 11 October 2009: Onwards through Mauritania

Talisman set off on strong southwards migration over the desert; he started before 0700GMT, when he was flying SSW at 66kms/h. He made fast progress to the SSW and by 4 PM was flying at an altitude of 1135 metres to the east of the Fderik iron ore mine. He continued flying at a high-altitude at speeds of over 50kms/h, and at 2000GMT he was still flying south at 59kms/h at 1695 metres over the desert to the west of the Richat structure, and sometime later roosted overnight on a rocky cliff top facing the northern desert. His day's flight was a fantastic 561 kms.





## 12 October 2009

At 1000GMT, Talisman was soaring over the escarpment heading south-west, and later across the road from Atar to Chinguetti. At 3 PM he was flying SSW at 72kms/h over Oujeft and 2 hours later had again climbed to high altitude, flying south at 1915 metres above the desert, where ground level was 103 metres. Maybe he's going to this height to miss the hot afternoon temperatures or he's gaining from the lift at altitude. At 6 PM he was roosting in an area of bare desert and salt flats. It looks as if he is heading for Aleg and its fishing opportunities 200 kms down the road. His day's flight was 255 kilometres.





### 13 October 2009

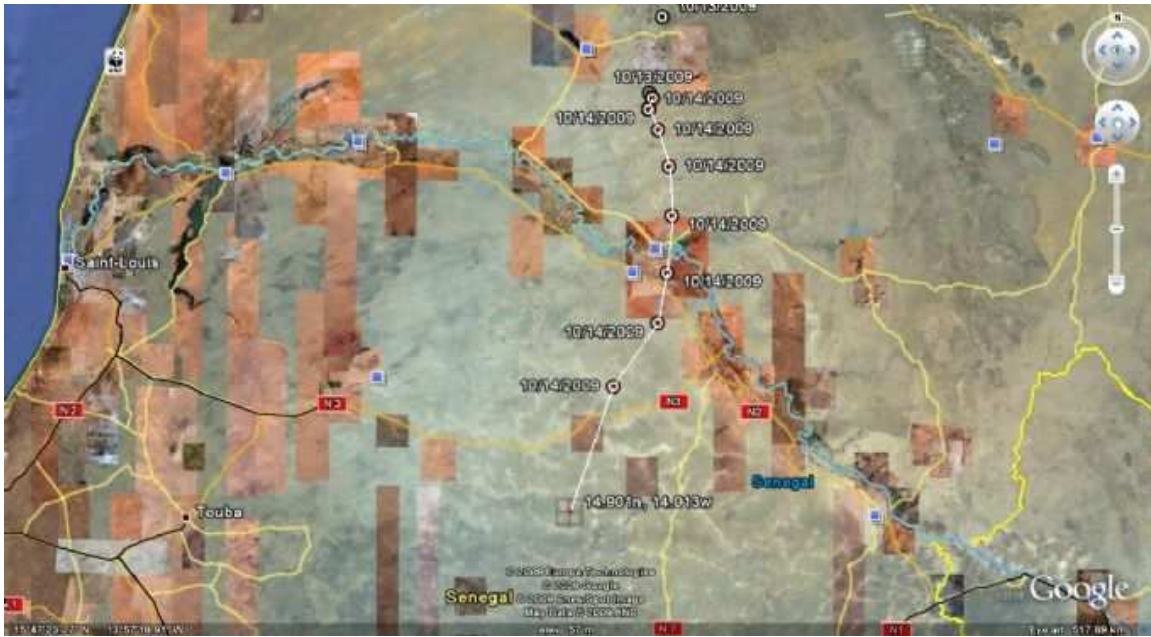
Talisman started migrating after 0900GMT, and by midday had turned more to the south. By 3 PM he was flying south at 54km/h and had risen to 1489 m (ground level only 53 m) and a narrow later was even higher at 1627 metres. By this time he was well to the east of Aleg. At 7 PM he was flying SSE at 87km/h and still at 1034 metres, but an hour later he was at roost in the desert.



Day's flight of 244km

### 14 October 2009

By 10:00 hours, Talisman was again well down the road, and in our later was flying south at 55kms/h at 416 metres. He crossed into Senegal over the River Senegal near Kaedi, but did not stop to fish. He continued south and on the last GPS transmission of this batch he was flying south at 59kms/h at 1006 metres, but his heading had changed to the South West. He roosted just north of a village in Senegal, south of Boudou Mdaba.



### **15 October 2009: Has he reached his winter home?**

Talisman had moved south and was perched south of the village at 0800GMT, and an later was further south flying SW at 45km/h towards Touba. At midday he flew into the Gambia and tracked down river, until at 1500GMT continued SSW to the east of Soma. At 1600 he was flying south at 46kms/h and crossed the river Casamanche, near Djibauar, and then flew into Guinea-Bissau at Ingore, when at 1800GMT he was flying south at 43 kms/h and not long later landed to roost in mangroves on the north bank of the river Cacheu, opposite Sao Vicente. It looks a suitable wintering site and I wonder if he will stay here, or has a further journey to make tomorrow. He's not far know from the wintering site of Nimrod, and one of the young ospreys from Loch Garten is also not far away in the Guinea-Bissau Islands.





### 16 October 2009: The final leg

Talisman was south of the river at 10:00 hours, and in this lowly circled southwards over the Rio Mansoa and crossed the Rio Martinho, east of Ondaine at midday. He then flew out towards the Bijagos Archipelago and that 1300GMT was over Ilha das Galinhas, and an hour later was perched on a small unnamed island. At 1500GMT he was flying with the silent at 329 metres, and then an hour later was 417 metres and continued to circle over the island reaching an altitude of 1800 metres at 1700GMT; he then flew to the outer island of Porto de Etebenha and then turned the North and flew at 1734 metres above Ilha Carache, before roosting for the night on the SW corner of Ilha das Galinhas. His day's flying was 198 kilometres. It looks as though he has reached his winter quarters.

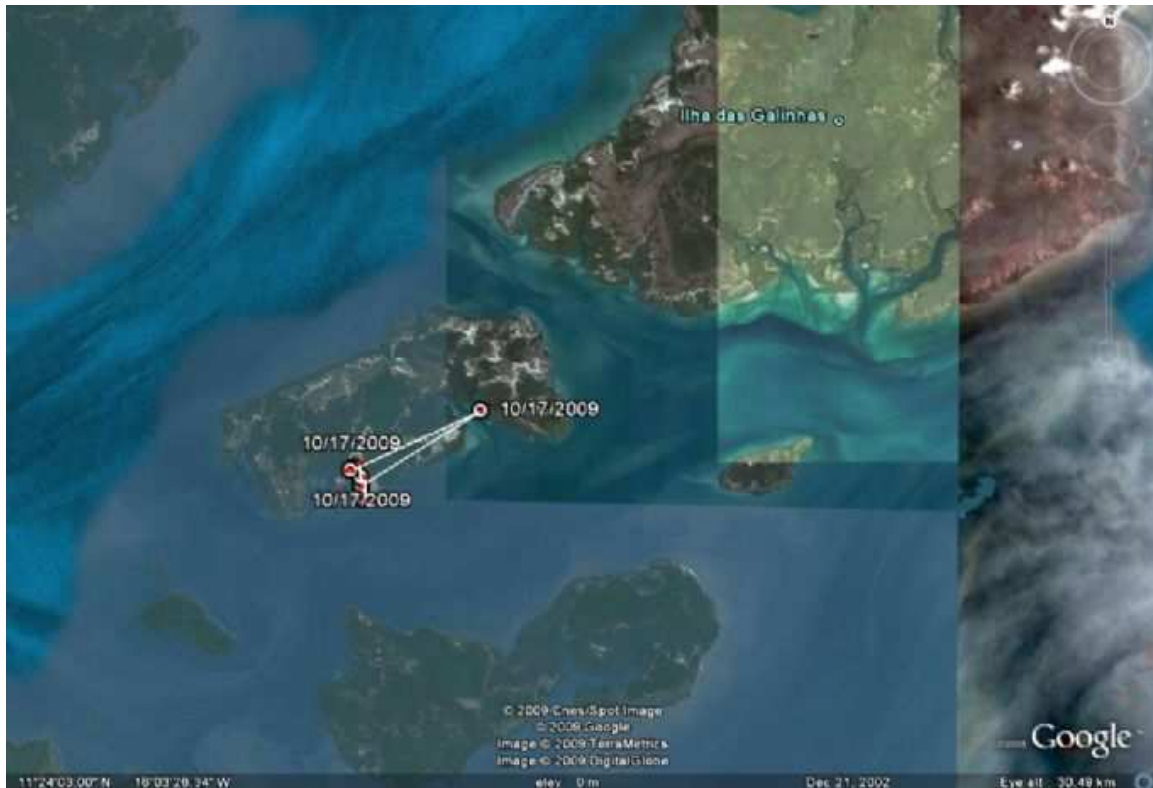




# Winter 2009-2010

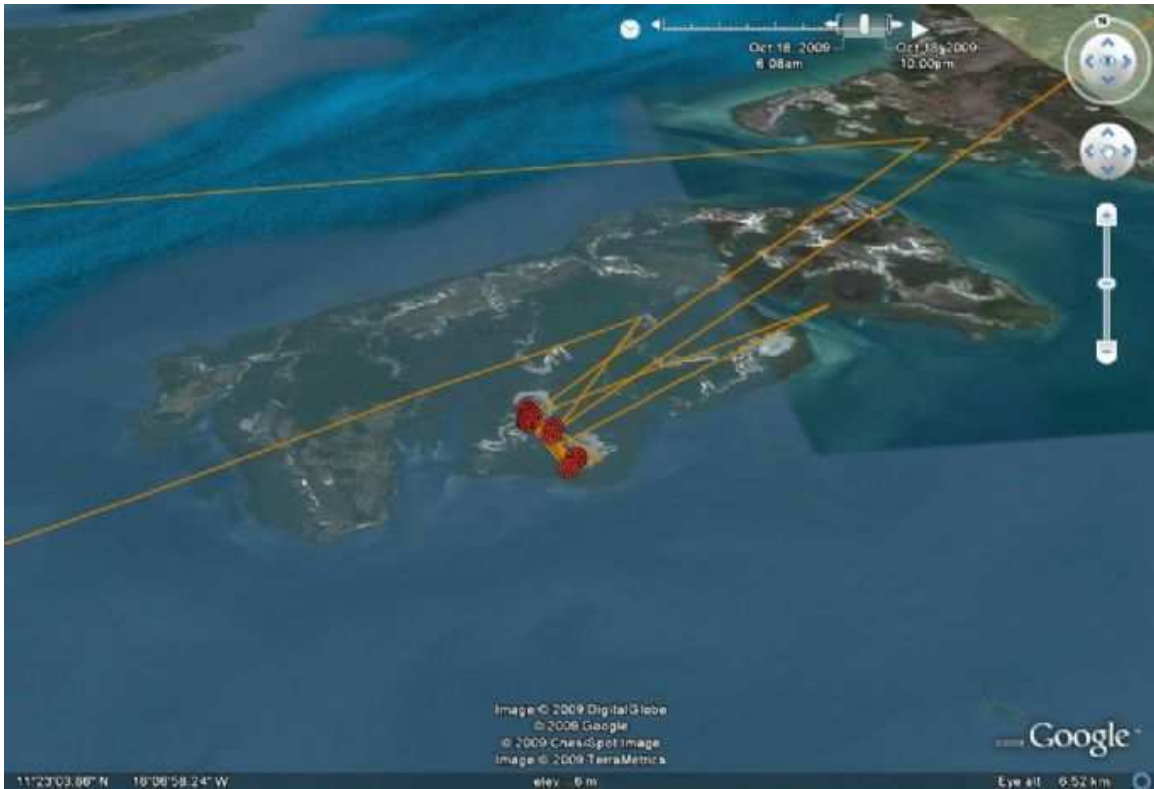
## 17 October 2009

Talisman spent the whole day on the small unnamed island to the south-west of Ilha das Galinhas. It's very interesting to remember that his old mate Logie from their nest B01 near Forres wintered in 2007/2008 just 49 kilometres away on the Ilha Roxa. It's amazing that they wintered so close together - I wonder if they ever met in winter time. Interestingly, this winter the young osprey from Loch Garten, which I ringed and tagged for the RSPB, is wintering on end of the island in the Bijagos archipelago just 34 kms away.



## 18 October 2009

Settled down on two small islets beside this small island in the Bijagos archipelago.



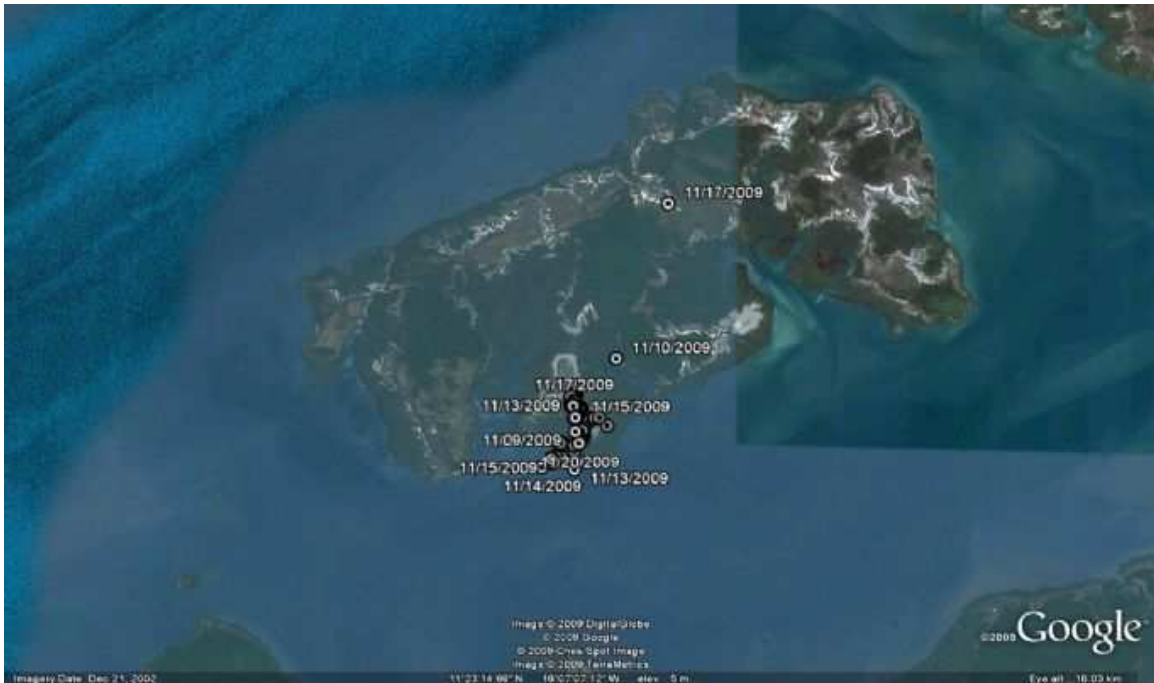
Locations now all in one area on two small islets

### **24 October 2009**

Talisman is now very settled on a wintering site, mainly two small islets next to an uninhabited island, and has ranged in an area 1.5 kilometres by 1 kilometre.

### **10 November 2009**

Very settled with little movement except local fishing forays.



Talisman's range 4 - 8 November

**22 November 2009**

Very settled at wintering site on small uninhabited island, with furthest recorded flight 3.5 kms NW on 17th November.

**29 November 2009**

All activity within 0.6 sq kms.

**29 November 2009**

All activity within 0.6 sq kms.

**06 December 2009**

All activity in 0.5 sq km, between main roosts on islet and the open sea for fishing trips.



**14 December 2009**

All activity within an area of 0.55 square kilometres - this male is very settled on this tiny islet in the Bijagos Archipelago



Extent of location week ending 13th December

**26 December 2009**

Staying very close to the islet and living in an area of 0.63 square kilometres.

**31 December 2009**

Staying very close to the islet and living in an area of 0.63 square kilometres.

**09 January 2010**

Talisman remains on the small islet and stays very close to his main roosts, using a range of 0.77 square kilometres.

### **23 January 2010**

Very settled on his islet, with a recent range of just 0.44 sq kms.

### **07 February 2010**

All locations within an area of 0.77 square kilometres - so very settled in what must be ideal wintering habitat for ospreys.

### **19 February 2010**

No change - still in exactly same local area.

### **26 February 2010**

Talisman has stayed as usual close to his wintering site in a range of 0.4 square kilometres.

