



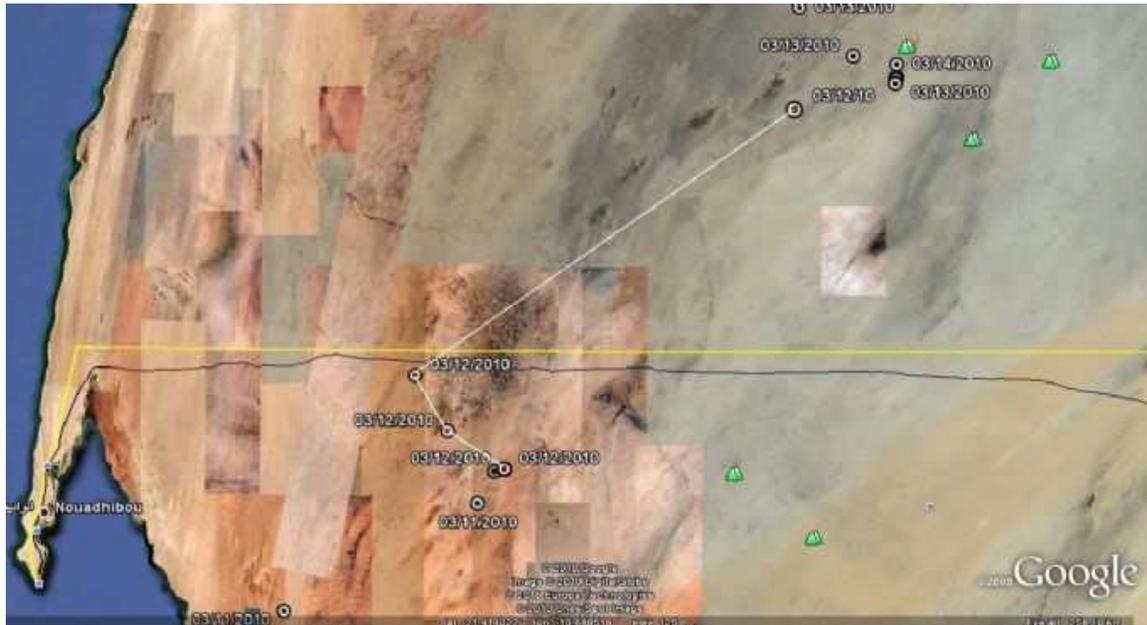


### 11 March 2010

At 1000 hrs GMT she was back on the coast and had probably fished because she was perched. She then started to fly north up the Mauritanian coast, passing Cap Arzaze at midday. An hour later she was flying east at 440 m altitude over Arguin island and then she flew north and then east into the desert. At 18:00 hours she was well inland flying north at 54kms/hr at 1370 m altitude and an hour later was roosting in the desert after a day's flight of 144 kms.



Start of migration compared with 2009 (yellow line)



Change in direction during 12<sup>th</sup> March

### 13 March 2010

A very poor day in the desert. She set off NW instead of NE and at 1400GMT, when she was 44 kms north west of her overnight roost, she was flying east at 48km/h. Then she turned SE and back tracked across the desert - I wonder if dust storms were causing problems, as by the end of the day she had flown over 106 kms but only advanced a small distance to the north.



#### 14 March 2010

Morven's transmitter has been intermittent so locations are often missing. By 1100GMT she was 2 kms north of her night roost flying N at 48 Kms/hr, then at 1800GMT she was 57 kms ENE roosting in stone flats, so another poor day's migration. She must be having problems with adverse wind.



## 15 March 2010

A better day and she covered 190 kms to the north-east and had flown well west of the Fderik Iron Ore Mine.



## 16 March 2010

At last Morven has an excellent day's migration. She set off north after 1000GMT and at 1300GMT was flying NE at 78kms/hr. An hour later she was flying N at 62 kms/hr at 1402 metres altitude and at 1500GMT her speed had increased to 94km/h flying north. The wind at ground level was south at 20mph, and probably faster at altitude so during the day she flew 412 kilometres. In the evening she roosted in a dry valley with sparse bushes to the north of the town of Smara in Western Sahara.



## 17 March 2010

By 2245GMT today, Morven was roosting near the Atlantic coast of Morocco near Mirhleft, 95 kilometres south of Agadir. She had successfully crossed the Sahara. She had flown 546 kilometres since the last GPS location at 1500GMT on 16th March. Hopefully more GPS locations will come in the next transmission.



**19 March 2010**

Poor signals coming in from Morven's transmitter but by 1600GMT she was near Khemis Zemara, NE of Safi, in Morocco after travelling 364 kms since last fix. She is heading for the Straits of Gibraltar.



**20 March 2010: Heading for the Straits**

Morven continues north but her transmitter is playing up, but at 1408GMT and 1547GMT non GPS signals were received, showing she was heading for the Straits of Gibraltar. She was 290 kilometres to the south in Morocco, so by nightfall today she should be within striking distance. Although she may wait until the 22nd to cross the water if she is late in the day.

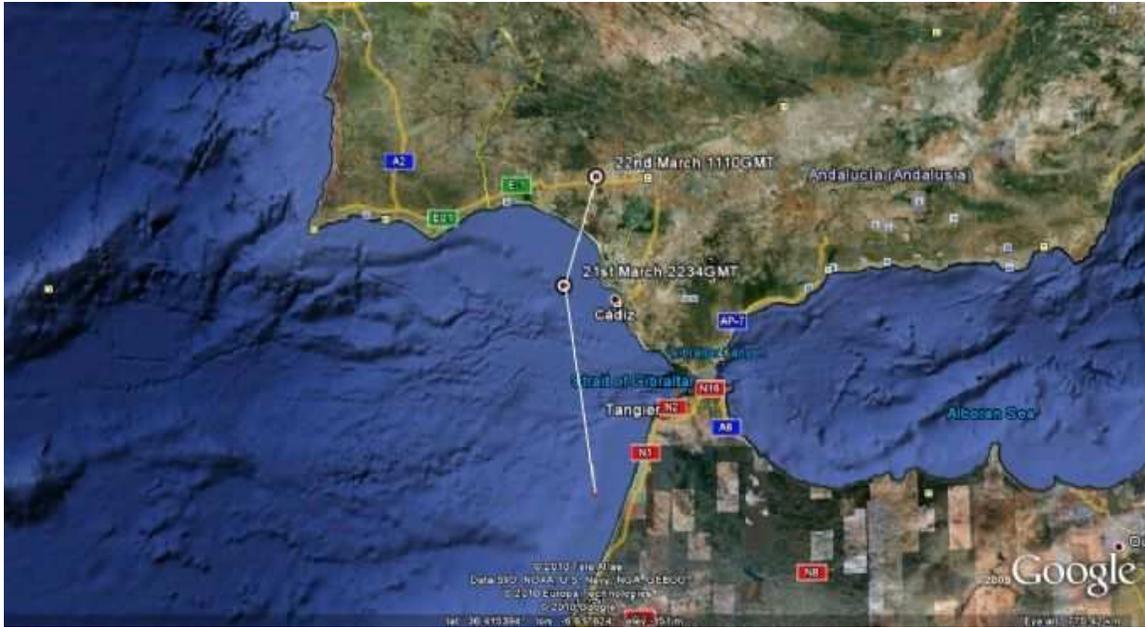


## 21 March 2010

Heading north but just one location today and not an accurate one. She could be over the Atlantic heading for Spain west of Larache in northern Morocco or could be near the coast in that area, well south of Tangier.

## 22 March 2010: Arrives in Spain

Despite her transmitter malfunctioning on GPS, locations came in for late last night and 1110GMT this morning, which showed that she flew over the Atlantic Ocean from Morocco to Spain last night. She is now in Andalucia and had flown about 300 kms.



#### **24 March 2010**

1506GMT today she crossed the River Tagus on the boundary of Portugal and Spain - making good progress north - catching up with Beatrice who is still in SW France.

#### **26 March 2010**

Only a few signals being received and not GPS - she seems to be in northern Extremadura.

#### **28 March 2010: Returned to Villaviciosa Estuary in Northern Spain**

Data in today but Morven's transmitter is playing up again so only one Class 1 location came in for 1330GMT today (1km accuracy). It shows that she is back in the Villaviciosa estuary reserve on the North Spain coast, where she stayed from 30th March to 7th April 2009. I wonder how long she will stay this time. The weather today was easterly wind 8mph, 50F and partly cloudy, while the forecast for next two days is wet and windy. Maybe the local ornithologists will locate her again.

### **30 March 2010: Resting at stopover**

Morven has been on the Villiviciosa estuary all day yesterday and today. On 29th, Adolfo Villaverde watched her for an hour eating a big grey mullet in the same place as she used in 2009. It was a beautiful sunny day, but then the weather turned rainy. Today he saw her again on a favourite perch and managed to take the following photo and the press links (Many thanks Adolfo).

Morven in the Asturian press today see:

<http://www.lne.es/gijon/2010/03/30/morven-vuelve-primavera-ria/893817.html>

and

<http://www.elcomerciodigital.com/v/20100330/villaviciosa/morven-vuelve-parar-20100330.html>



**31 March 2010**

Adolfo Villaverde reports today "She continues using two strategic polders for resting and eating. Later a picture of one of them showing you how this habitat is like. Also letting you know that the weather is very bad with northwest winds and rain. Tomorrow is expected to clear up but at the end of the week it is suppose to change again. Already seen more ospreys here and friends in Santander are also seeing them. Last year I had the chance to see some birds before our wintering male left and he always chase them till they left the reserve (at least if they cross this place near this bird roost). Also I'll send a picture of Morven two meters away from a black kite which is waiting to get some of the fish that fell in the ground."

Thanks Adolfo for great photo.



## 01 April 2010

Aldolfo tells me she was in the same meadows beside the estuary this morning, but her transmitter is silent at the moment.

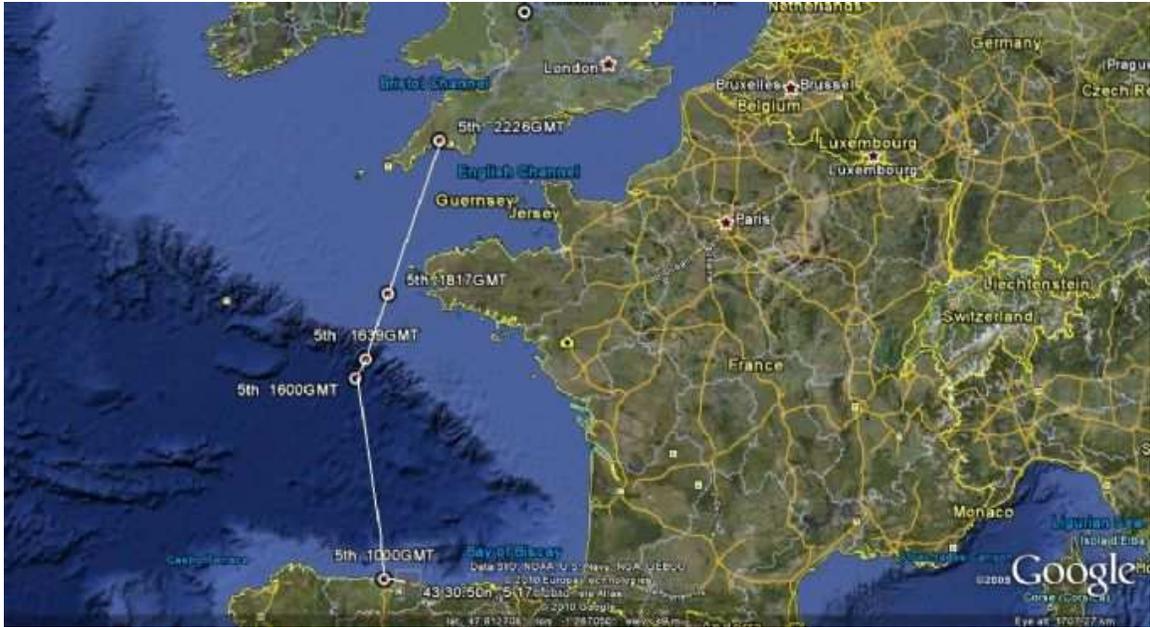
## 02 April 2010

Morven roosted in the estuary this evening.



## 05 April 2010: Off across the Bay of Biscay

Morven was still on the Villiviciosa estuary this morning. She departed after 0900GMT and at 1000GMT had flown west past Gijon and was heading for the Asturian headland of Cabo de Penas. At 1600GMT she was well over the Bay of Biscay and by 1800GMT was well SW of Brittany - she kept on flying and came ashore near Loue, and at 11.30pm was just NE of Doddycross, east of Liskeard in Cornwall. She had flown 834 ksm in 12 hours - a great crossing of the Bay of Biscay direct from Spain. She was fortunate to have a favourable wind and clear conditions.



## 06 April 2010

She roosted last night in a wood 3 kms NW of Kirkby Lonsdale - no other data as her transmitter is not working correctly on GPS.

## 09 April 2010: Arrives home

Unfortunately the transmitter has sent very little data but at 6pm this evening she was back at her nest. I had been there between 11am and midday and she had not arrived by then. Her mate Talisman had arrived 6 hours earlier. Maybe further data will come in and I can pinpoint arrival time. But it's amazing they both arrived on the same day after these great migrations from Africa.

# Summer

## 12 April 2010

I visited the nest site at 0745am and she was perched in the dead Scots pine above the nest - looking very settled and waiting for a fish. Brilliant sunny morning and lots of bird song as well a pair of lapwings displaying in the field surrounding the osprey nest.

## 16 April 2010

Morven was in southern Caithness on 13th and 14th April - what is she doing going back to her northern haunts when she should be at her nest - or was she chased off by the new intruder?

## 25 April 2010

Morven was again in Caithness; at 1pm she was perched 100 metres south of Loch Rangag beside the Thurso road, and two hours later was perched 700 metres to the south of the loch.

## 30 April 2010

Today she was perched at the nest with her mate - at last looking a bit settled. A GPS position showed that she was at the nest at 3pm yesterday.

## 12 May 2010

At last she has laid eggs and this morning was incubating, after a night of snow. She looked rather wet but was sitting tightly.

## 23 May 2010

Morven sitting tight. Transmitter gave fixes at nest on evening of 18th May.

## **12 June 2010**

Morven sitting tight when I checked this afternoon - it had been raining much of the morning.

## **29 June 2010: Eggs hatched!**

Visited the nest site at 0740am and found Morven standing in nest, obviously with small chicks.

## **10 July 2010**

Morven perched in Scots pine above the nest this afternoon, and I could see two chicks in the nest with my telescope; there could have been a third lying down.

## **25 July 2010**

Visited the nest today and saw Morven perched in the dead Scots pine waiting for her mate to return with fish. The two chicks were low down in the nest, with heads occasionally popping up.

## **02 August 2010**

Two chicks growing well and the few times I've called by to check the nest, Morven has been perched in the dead pine beside the eyrie tree.

## **18 August 2010: Back to Caithness**

Sometime before the 18th August, Morven left the breeding site and flew north over the Moray Firth to her favourite haunts in Caithness. Her transmitter is still not operating properly with just occasional data transmission, but three GPS locations during this evening showed she was at Loch Calder.



#### 04 September 2010

Unfortunately Morven's transmitter has been a problem for a long time and is failing to provide data most days.

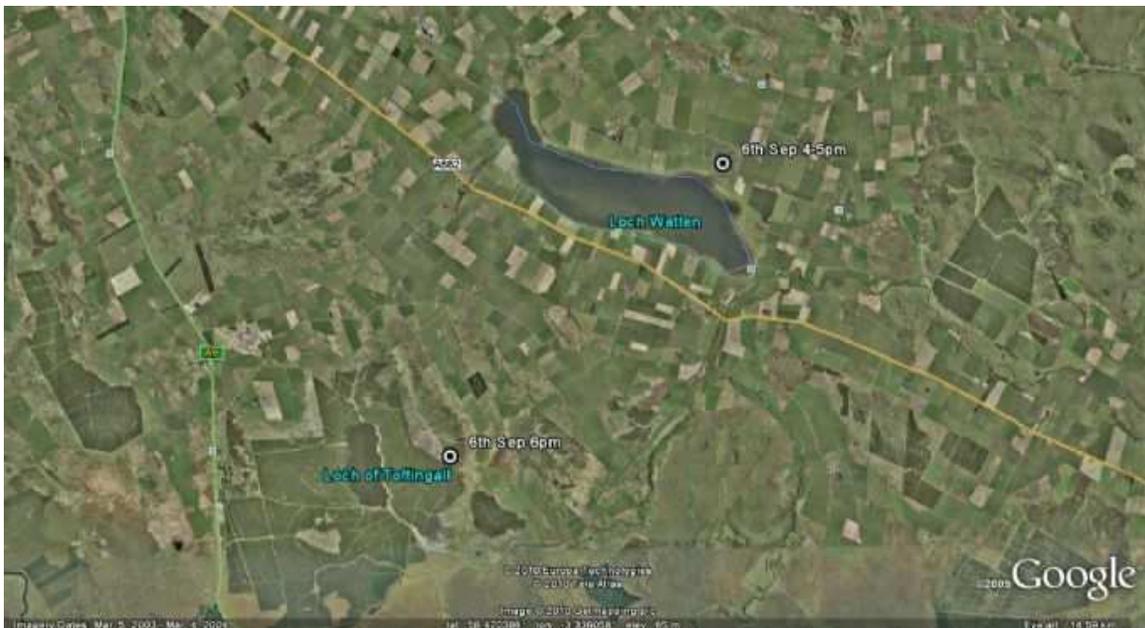
On 26th August, Stan Laybourne sent me his observations after going out to search for Morven near his home in Caithness. 23rd Aug, 1545h: from the S end of L Calder I saw her hunting over the N end. She moved to the W bay and hovered then dropped below the tree tops. I drove up E side but failed to relocate. 24th Aug, 1400h: she was perched on a fence post at Loch Calder, and on 25th at 1600h: perched on same fence post, feeding. But he failed to find her on 26th August. On 28th a GPS signal placed her further SE in Caithness, probably heading back home.

From a recent transmission, it looks as though she went back to Moray as she was on the Black Isle on 30th August, and flying back north over the Moray Firth on 31st, and then roosted overnight near the Causeymire windfarm in Caithness. At midday on 1st September she was near Loch Olginney in Caithness.



## 08 September 2010

Morven is still up in Caithness but more on the eastern side with locations on the 6th September just north of Loch Watten at 4 and 5pm, and an hour later near the Loch of Toftingall. A non GPS location for midday today gave her still in the same general area. Last year she left Caithness on 10th September to start her migration to Africa.



**09 September 2010**

Morven at east end of Loch Calder at 10.33am today. Later in the day she crossed back to Moray and visited her nest site at 5.06pm.

**11 September 2010**

Still in Caithness at dawn, heading north from Loch Ruard where she spent the night.

# August Migration

## 13 September 2010: Morven off on migration

This evening two locations were received showing that Morven had started her migration. At 3.41pm she was near Friockheim in Angus and 2 hours later she was a bit further south by Letham Grange golf course just north of Arbroath. It's been a pretty miserable day today so it's more likely that she left Caithness yesterday and headed over the Moray Firth and possibly left Moray yesterday.



## 15 September 2010

I received an email late tonight from Paul Noakes

"Dear Roy, A friend of mine today saw an Osprey with a satellite transmitter and I guess it must have been one of yours. It was at Burgh Castle at the east end of Breydon Water, Norfolk at 3pm 15/9/10 and appeared to be heading south-east. We would be very interested to hear if it tallies up with one of your birds.""

Burgh Castle is 12 miles north of where Morven roosted last night so the report fits with her travelling through Suffolk. Thanks Paul.

## 16 September 2010

Morven was roosting last night and was still there at 5am on small river at Benacre on the Suffolk coast.



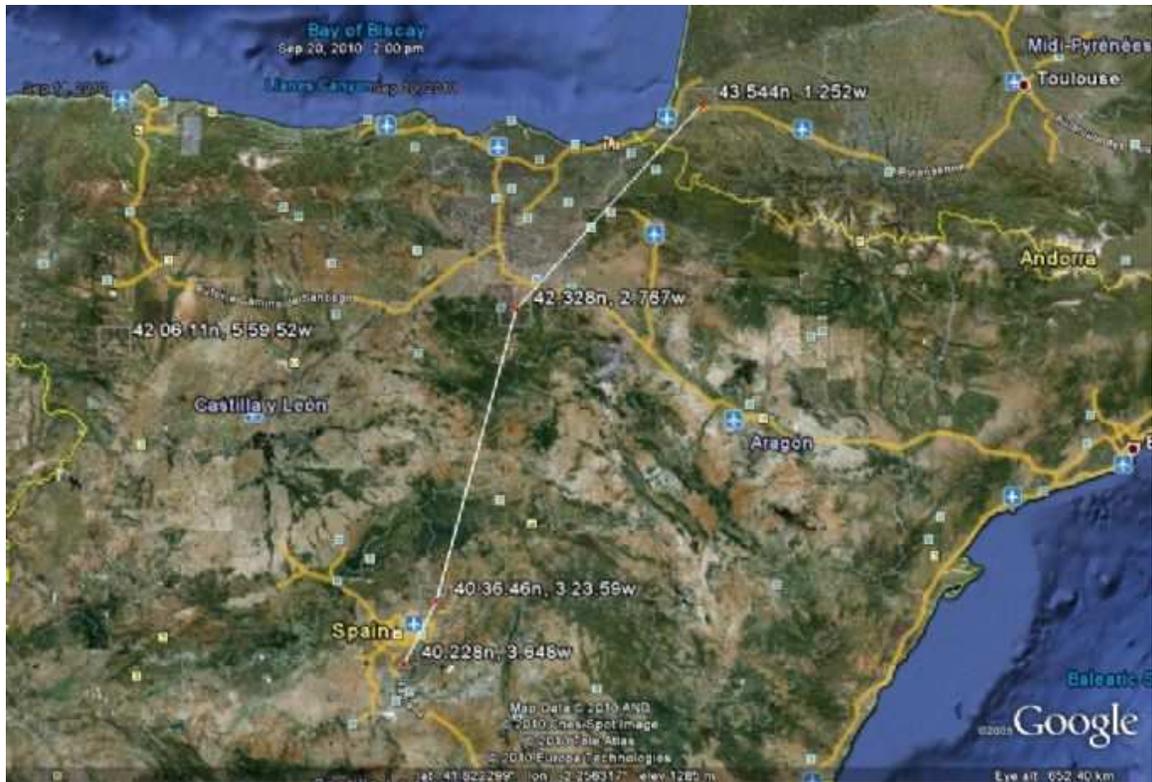
## 18 September 2010

Morven also went by the eastern route - not sure where she crossed the Channel, but at 1100hours on 17 September, she was 25 kms of Compiegne. She then flew just west of Paris and at 14:00 hours was 50 kms SW of Paris. She roosted overnight Southeast of Le Blanc. At 1431GMT today her position was 16 kms SW of Toulouse. Nearly 1000 kms from her location on the Suffolk coast.



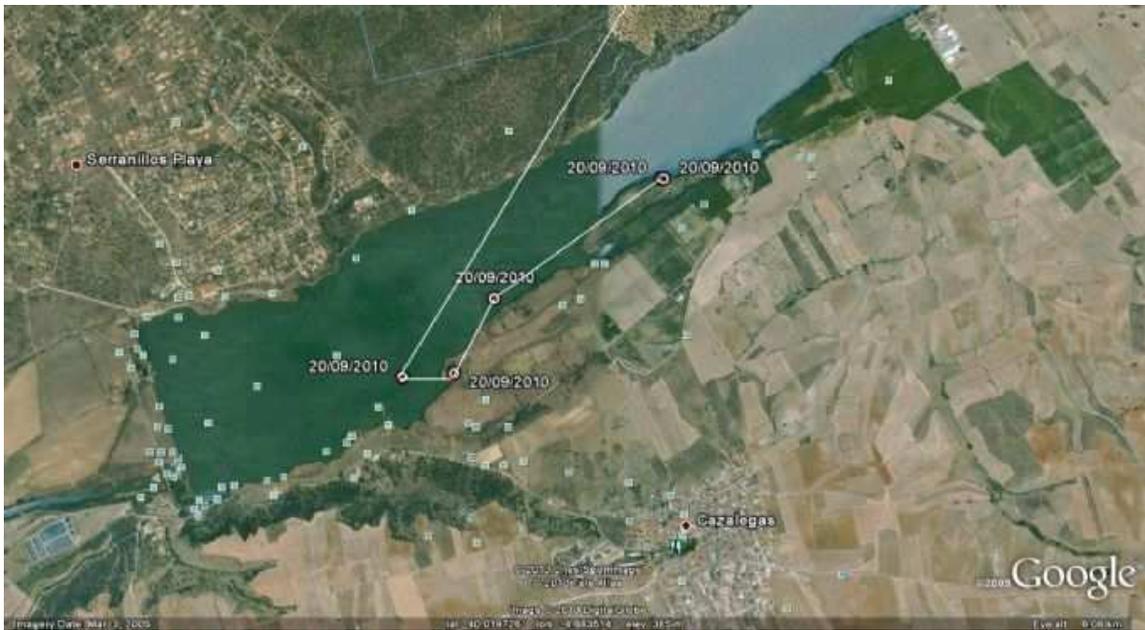
## 19 September 2010

Morven's location near Toulouse appears to have been an incorrect non GPS position, because at 1431GMT on 18th she was near Peyrehorade, north of the western Pyrenees. At 2148hrs she was SW of Logrono in Spain after crossing the mountains. At 1600 on 19th she was just NE of Madrid flying SW at 60km/hr and she appeared to roost just south of Madrid.



## 20 September 2010

Morven flew west from her roost south of Madrid to a big reservoir favoured by ospreys called Embalse de Cazalegas. She arrived there at 1500GMT flying over the water, then at 1600 perched by the lakeside, probably eating a fish, an hour later flying over the water again and then at 1800 landed in trees at the edge of the lake and roosted there overnight.



## 21 September 2010

Morven flew 136 kilometres SSW during day and at 1712GMT was at the Embalse la Serena near Capilla.



## 24 September 2010

Morven was roosting near the Serena reservoir at 0315GMT today, so she has spent a few days here on stop-over.

## 29 September 2010: Nearly there

At last a few locations came in from the dodgy transmitter - this afternoon Morven was heading south through the Sahara Desert, near the Fderik iron ore mine in Mauritania. Between 1153 and 1415GMT she had flown about 100 kms. She is now about 500 kilometres from her usual wintering site.



## 03 October 2010: Exactly same wintering area

Morven's transmitter worked today and showed her roosting 9 km into the desert at 0600 and 0700GMT; and then down on the Atlantic coast during daylight.



Morven's roost and daytime locations



Morven's location 100km North of Nouakchat

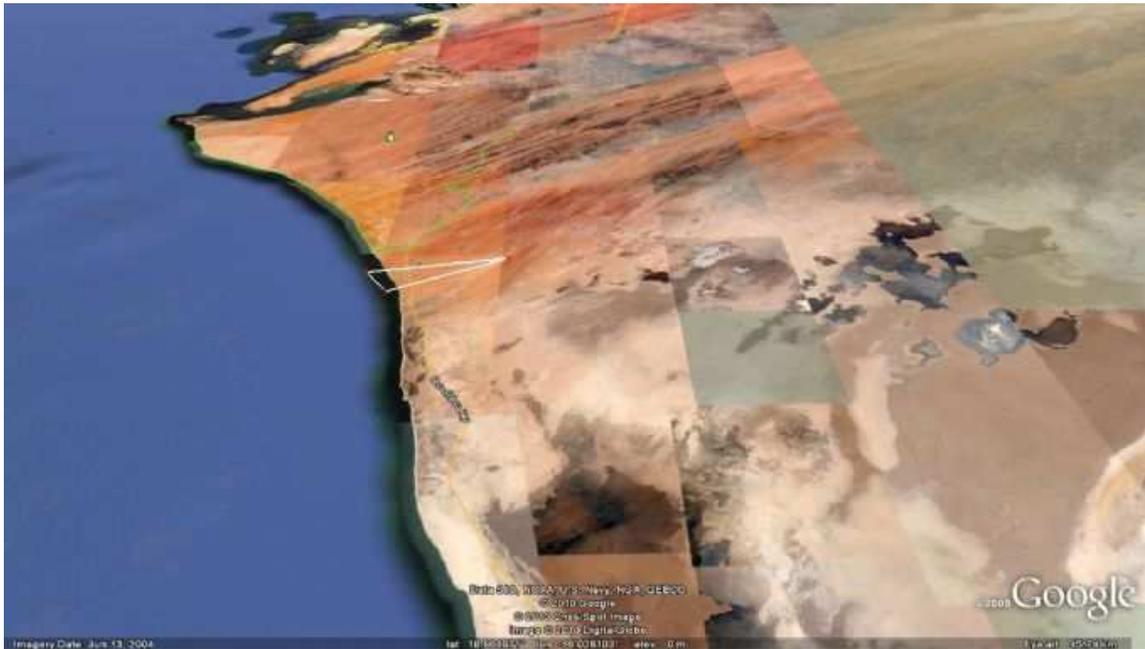
# Winter 2010-2011

## 31 October 2010: Morven back in usual desert haunt

Morven's transmitter is playing up as usual but 4 good quality locations between 24th and 29th October showed she was in exactly the same area on the Mauritanian coast. Using an area of 5 sq kms and roosting as before 9 kms into the desert.

## 09 November 2010

Living in exactly the same area again - roosting in the desert and fishing on the coast.



## 21 November 2010

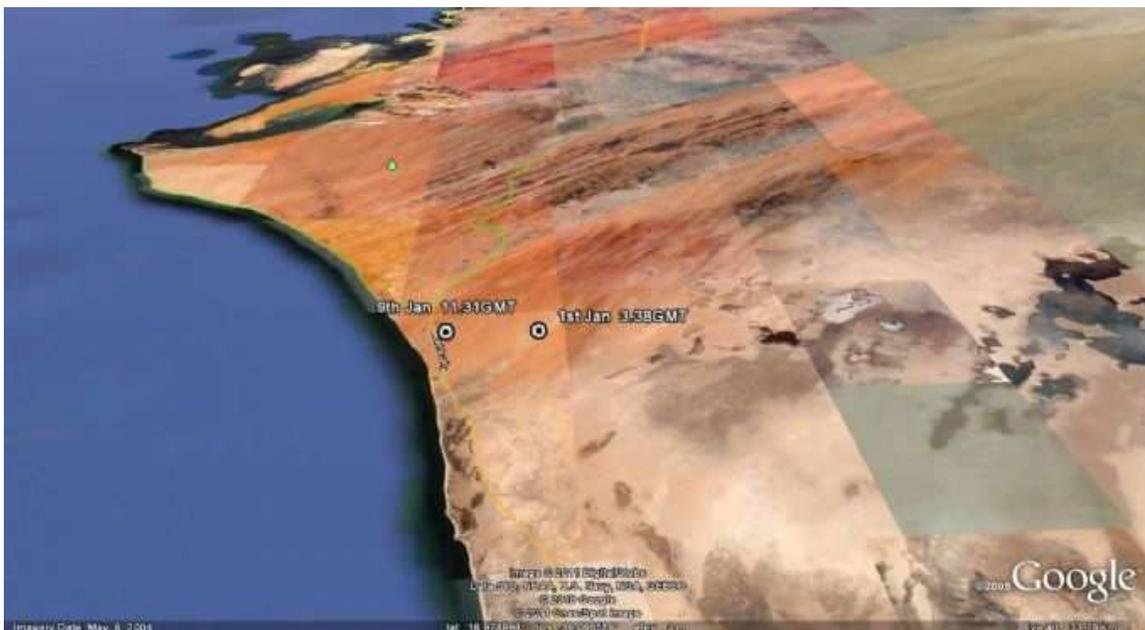
Transmitter not working much - but still in same location.

### **31 December 2010: No change**

Morven's transmitter is still malfunctioning but good GPS positions came in for the 19th and 20th December, which showed that she was still in exactly the same location on the Mauritanian coast.

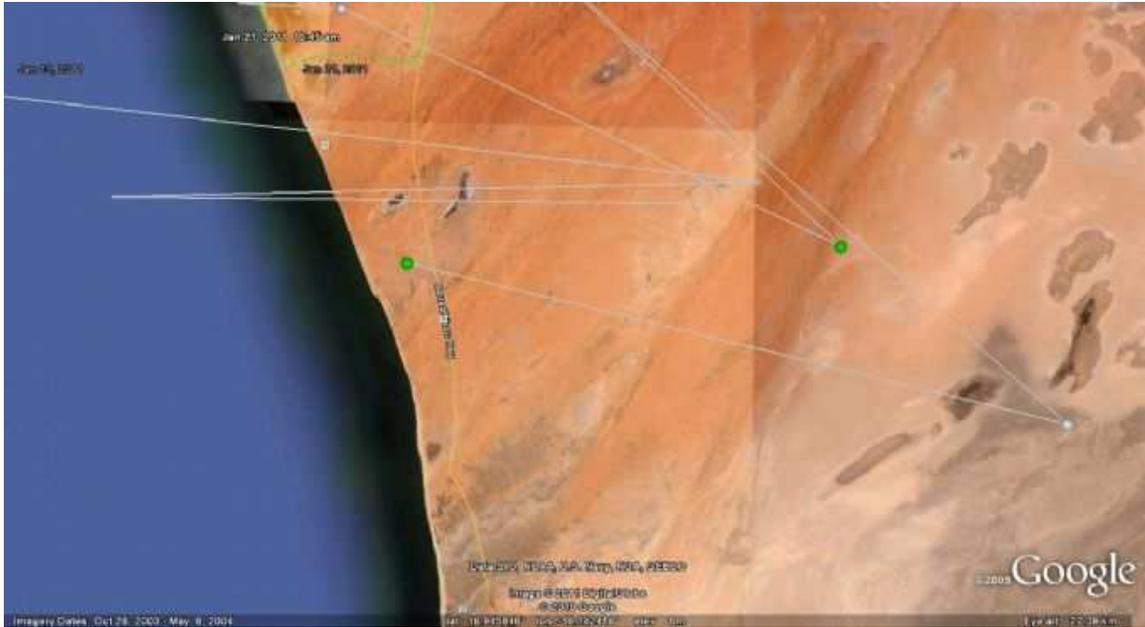
### **10 January 2011: Same place**

Two locations 1st and 9th January were from her usual location on Mauritanian coast.



### **21 January 2011**

Two signals on 21st show Morven is still wintering at her usual place.



### **14 February 2011**

Three poor quality signals showed she was at normal wintering location.

### **13 March 2011: No news**

No signals from Morven's transmitter, which has been faulty for a long time. She set off north on 9th March last year and 17th March in 2009, so she should either be on her way or thinking about it.