

Red 8T's Movements in 2010

Spring Migration

22 March 2010: Red 8T starts his migration

At 1100GMT this morning Red 8T was 2 kilometres north of his wintering site heading NNE at 41kms/hr at 21 metres altitude. His migration has started and by 1928GMT he had flown 190 kilometres NNE, had crossed The Gambia and was near Kaffrine in Senegal. His GPS data will come in over night and I'll get it up to date at first chance.



24 March 2010

At 1500GMT he was north of the River Senegal flying north into the Mauritanian deserts.

26 March 2010

Off by 1000GMT but doglegs in morning suggested problems with dust storms, but better in afternoon and by 1600GMT had flown 224 kms and was flying NNE at 62 kms altitude of 1377 metres.

27 March 2010

He left his roost site in the desert north of the Fderik mine after 0900GMT and flew a NNW course over the deserts. At 1400 he was flying N at 62kms/hr at 634 metres and two hours later was at 1518 metres. At 1700 he had landed in the Western Sahara desert for the night. The day's flight was 358 kms.



28 March 2010

At 0900GMT he was perched 4 kms to the north and then started his day's flight N and then NE and by 1200GMT was flying at 40kms/hr at 1051 metres. Two hours later had passed over Samara and was flying NE. The wind was N 17mph, 73F and partly cloudy. He had already flown 142 kms. He flew north fast

in th afternoon and at 1700GMT was flying at 85km/hr NE and after 1800GMT roosted in bare desert south of the boundary line.

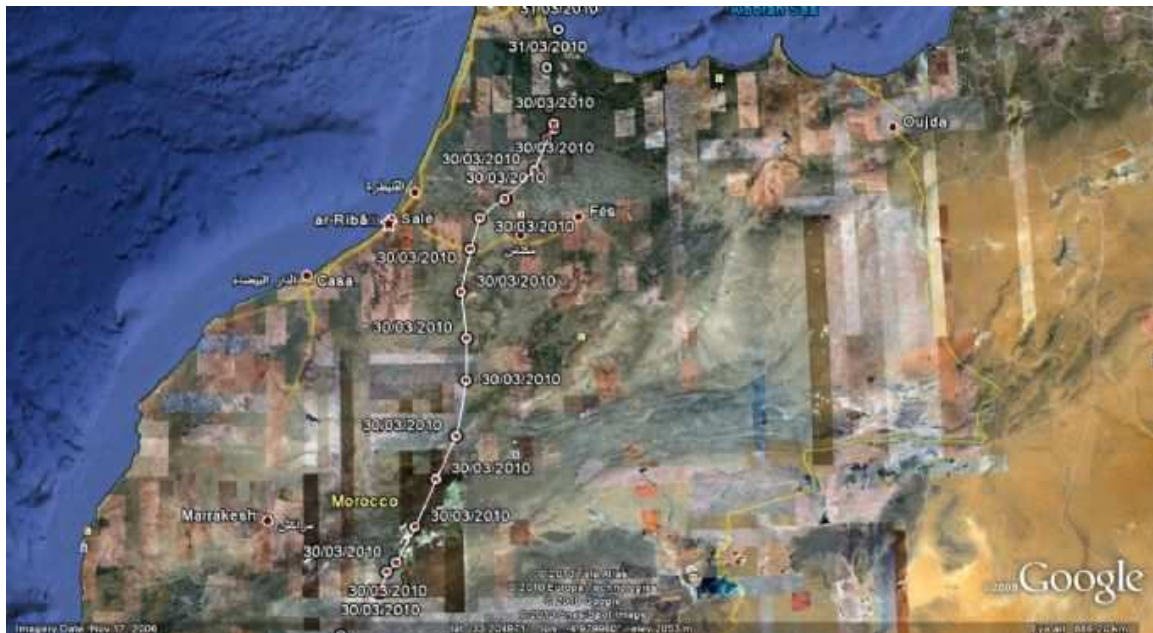


29 March 2010

Red 8T has set off by 1000GMT and had an excellent flight over the Atlas Mountains in Morocco reaching a high point of 1946 metres at 1500GMT. He then passed Tizgui and Akka, and continued flying at altitudes over 1700 and 1800 metres for the four hours, with highest speeds of 101km/hr. He finally roosted in mountains north of Quarzazate after migrating 493 kilometres.

30 March 2010

Had set off by 0700GMT and west of Kenifra at 1300GMT flying N at 59km/hr at an altitude of 1798 metres. At 160GMT turned NE and three hours later was roosting in a tree on a mountain side 33 kilometres east of Quezzane. A day's flight of 462 kilometres.



31 March 2010

Red 8T was already well on the way at 0600GMT, flying NNE at 44km/hr. He flew out over the Mediterranean Sea well east of Tetouan at 0800GMT flying NNE; an hour later he was flying N at 40km/hr 10 metres above the waves some 40 kms SE of Gibraltar. Flew ashore over Malaga at 1100GMT and then headed straight up over the Sierras. At 1600GMT was flying NNE at 80km/hr east of Andajar and two hours later was just south of Valdepenas at 1440 metres still flying NNE. She flew over Tomellos at 1900GMT and then came down in

Farmland a little to the north to roost the night. The day's flight was 544 kilometres - he is certainly making a determined migration towards the River Spey.



01 April 2010

Red 8T was clearly on the road early again as the first location of a new transmission was for 1100GMT, when he was well north near the Guadalajara Reservoir flying N at 51km/hr; two hours later he was still flying at 51km/hr north toward Rioja district and then the west end of the Pyrennees.



02 April 2010

Red 8T had a great day's migration through France to roost at night just below the French coast - a migration of 610 kilometres.

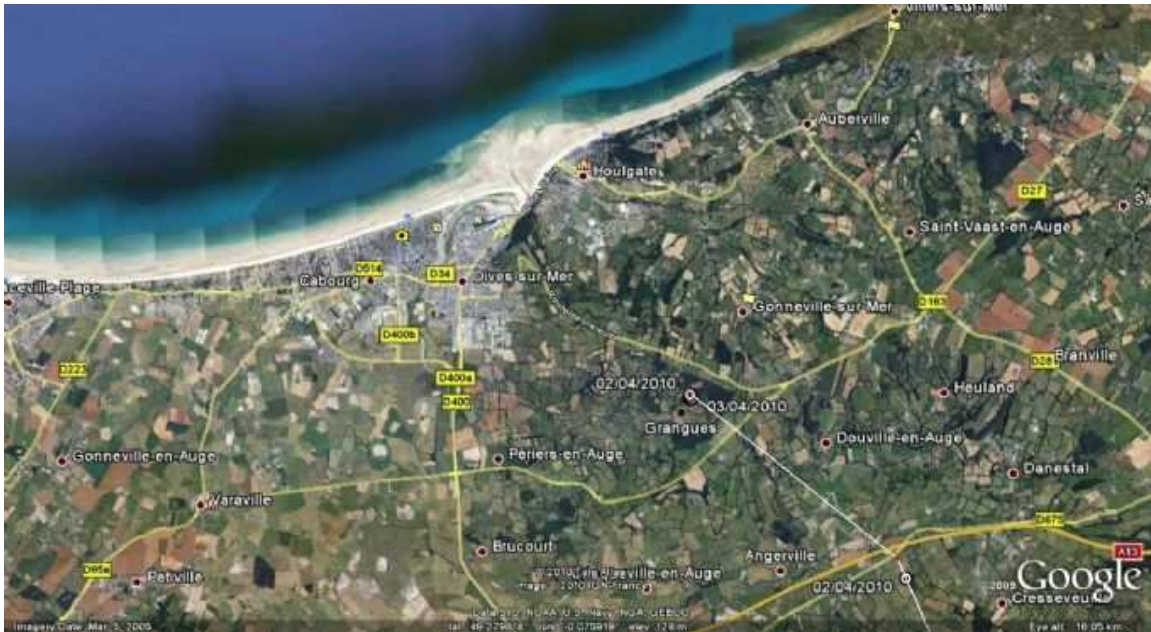


03 April 2010

Red 8T still at roost at 0500GMT - in a wood near Granques just 4 kms from the Channel south of Houlgate. The weather at Le Havre just up the coast is south wind 16mph, partly cloudy - the wind on the English side is SW.

He was away early and was well out over the Channel at 0600GMT flying NNW at 80km/hr at 126 metres above waves; hour later was still NNW at 62km/hr. Came ashore over Hayling Island and Farlington just before 9am BST, as on the hour he was flying NNW at 70km/h over Athena Avenue, Purbrook.

He was south of Whitchurch an hour later, then near Chilton, Hungerford at 11am and at midday was flying NNW at 66km/hr near Lechlade. At 1pm he was near Bourton-on-the-Hill in the Cotwolds flying NNW at 59km/hr; then at Barnt Green an hour later and speed 73km/hr. At 4pm Nantwich and an hour later near Newton le Willows. At 6pm just south of Preston flying NNE at 50km/hr and then the last signal so far he was flying towards Wolfshole Crag in Bowland Moors, Lancashire. He roosted in Cumbria after a 622 kms flight.



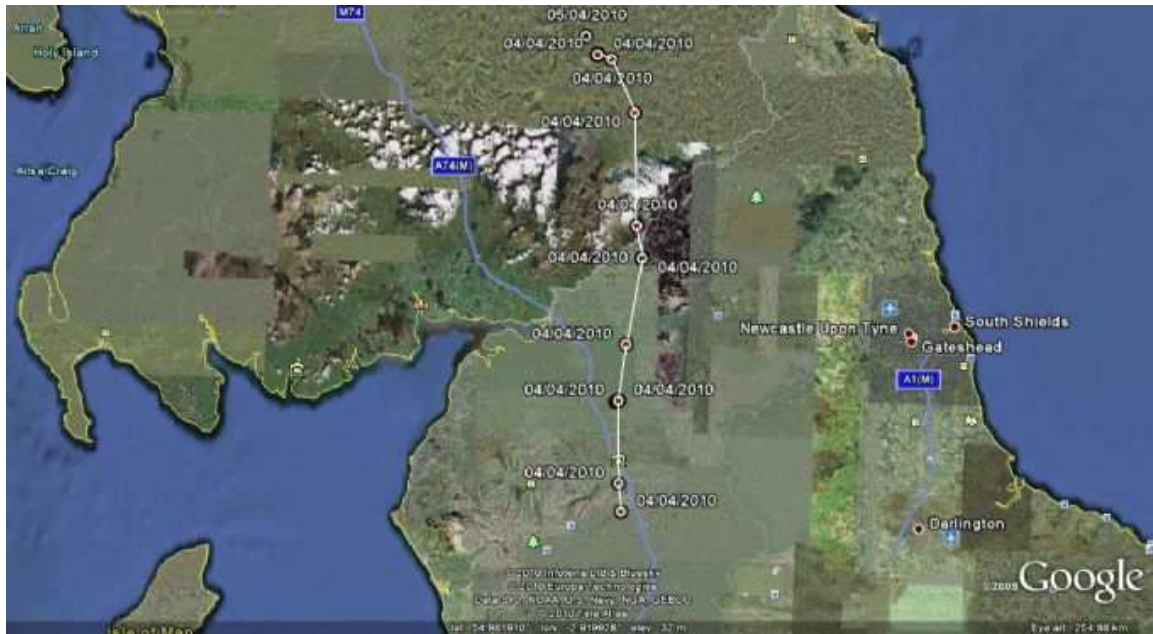
Night roost 2nd/3rd April



622km in the day

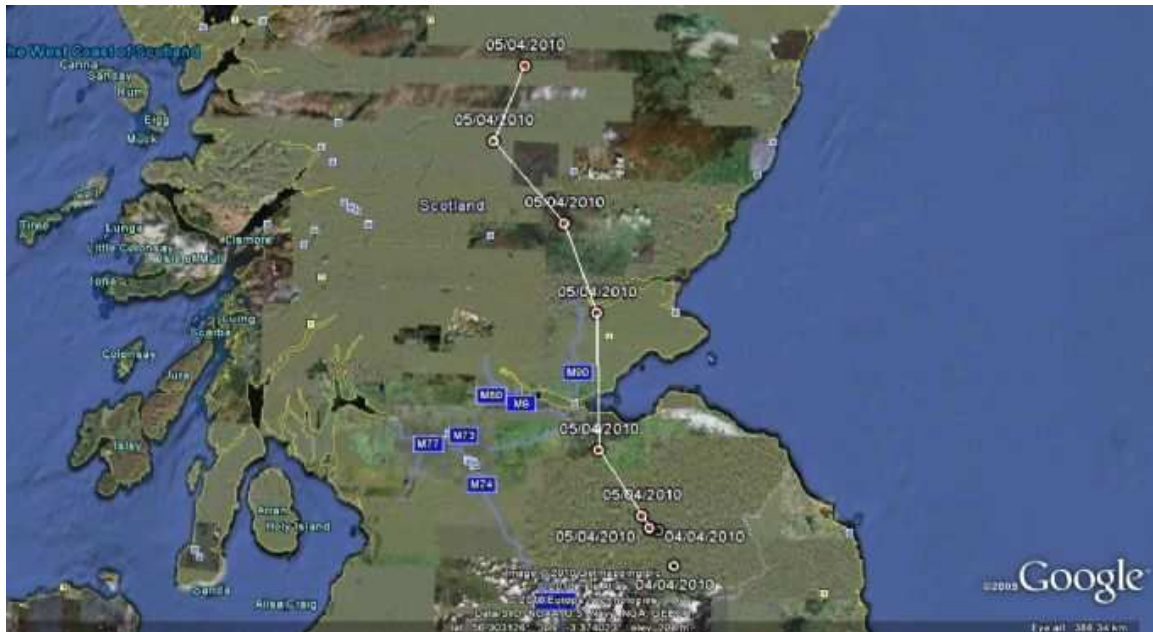
04 April 2010

He roosted last night on a roadside near Bampton in Cumbria, between the M6 and Haweswater. Weather wise not a great day for migrating. At 7am he was beside a small river north of Lowther Castle and an hour later, after flying over Penrit, was perched by another small river at Armathwaite and then spent the next four hours perched on a wooded hill. At 1pm he was underway again and at 2pm and 3pm was perched in trees in SW side of Kielder Forest. He then set off over the Border and went by Hawick and Yair Bridge to roost the night in a forested hill south of Caddonfoot. Just 126 kms today.



05 April 2010: Arrives back at eyrie

He departed before 10am and an hour later was over Glencorse Reservoir. He flew over Edinburgh and the Firth of Forth and at midday was flying at 84km/hr over Abernethy on the south bank of the Tay Estuary. An hour later he was flying at 70km/hr NW over the Loch of Lowes osprey site and at 2pm he had crossed from Perthshire into the hills of Gaick, where he turned NE and flew down Glenfeshie. He called briefly at his old eyrie at 3pm and an hour later was perched above the Rothiemurchus Fishery, maybe after eating his first fish of the season on his breeding grounds. Flight today was 200 kilometres.



06 April 2010

Near home all day and fishing near Aviemore on the pike lochs.

12 April 2010

Red 8T has been moving about a lot so maybe his mate is not yet back. On 10th April he made a surprisingly long circular flight of 85 kms. At 4pm he was near Boat of Garten, then flew north towards Inverness, and at 5pm was at Daviot, where he was flying N at 38kms/hr at 1516 metres altitude. An hour later he was well to the SW just north of Coignafearn Lodge in the Monadhliaths and at 7pm was over Loch Insh at 1805 metres. So this was a real high altitude flight - was he alone or with a noisy displaying band of younger ospreys?



21 April 2010

Red 8T has changed nests - he's moved a bit closer to the Rothiemurchus Fishery! To nest A10 where the older male blue/white XE has not returned yet from migration.

Summer

26 April 2010: Problems

Today he was flying at most hourly GPS locations which is very unusual. He was at the new nest at 5am and in the late evening, but at 11am he was flying north at Corgarff in Donside and an hour later flying north over Glenfiddich, and then returned. What was he doing - possibly chasing off a male from his new nest or being chased by the returning male?

04 May 2010

Red 8T mainly at new nest site with mate, which has now laid eggs and is incubating. Fishing flights as far as Glen Feshie and Boat-of-Garten.

11 May 2010

Well settled now at his new nest, I haven't had time yet to check the old nest he used last year.

04 June 2010

Hunting local lochs as well as the Rothiemurchus Fishery; his mate has probably hatched.

23 June 2010

His mate has hatched her eggs and he has been fishing in the local area, including Rothiemurchus Fishery and lochs Alvie and an Eilein.

10 July 2010

Red 8T now busy feeding chicks and ranging in an area of 27 sq kms; on two occasions he was fishing the River Feshie.

26 July 2010

Red 8T is fishing for two chicks and is regularly at the Rothiemurchus Fishery and surrounding lochs. Garry Ridsdale has very kindly sent me this superb photograph of Red 8T catching a fish at Rothiemurchus Fishery at 6.18am on 12th July 2010. There are other great shots of Red 8T and other ospreys fishing on his photographic website at <http://www.garryridsdale.com/portfolio60347.html>



02 August 2010

Red 8T's chick has now flown and he is busy catching fish, mainly at Rothiemurchus fishery.

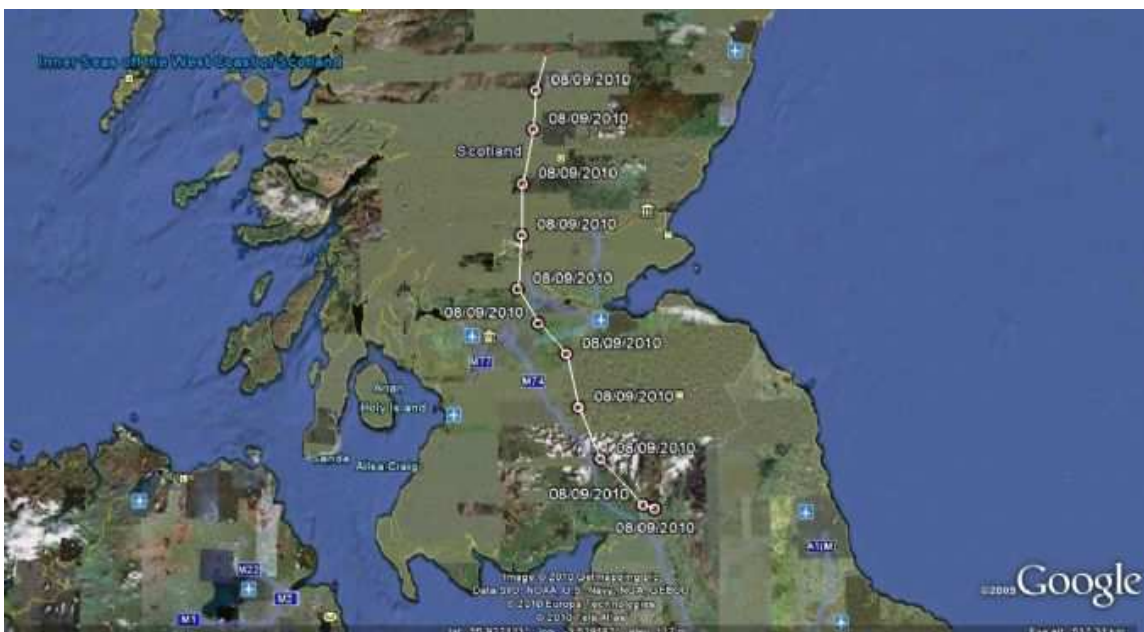
04 September 2010

Red 8T is still busy fishing in the same area, and frequently visiting the Rothiemurchus fishery.

August Migration

08 September 2010: Red 8T starts his migration

Red 8T was near his nest until 8am and soon after set off on migration. At 9am he was flying south at 41 km/hr in Glenfeshie and then flew over the North Perthshire hills, over the A9 trunk road and then Loch Tummel. At 11am he was over the east end of Loch Tay and an hour later was to the east of Loch Earn. He flew just west of the windfarm at Dunblane and at 1pm was flying south at 43km/hr over the Gargunnock Hills, west of Stirling. He then headed SSE heading into the Borders near Biggar. At 4pm he was flying south at 43 km/hr near Culter Fell, and an hour later was just south-west of Moffat. At 6pm he was heading south-east towards the English border and an hour later was settled for the night in a backwater of the river Esk just south-east of Canonbie. His journey was 163 miles.



09 September 2010: Long flight over England

Red 8T probably fished early as he left his roost area before 8am, when he was flying south at 46 km/hr. At 9am he was perched in woods at Lazonby Fell but an hour later was again flying SSE and passed to the east of Penrith. He then followed the M6 down and an hour later he was over the Tebay service station. Then he set off more over the moors, being over Ingleborough at midday and just north of Colne at 1pm. At 2pm he was flying south at 47km/hr over Saddleworth

Moor and 3pm was near Bakewell. He flew on over Matlock and Belper, and at 4pm was soaring near the Radcliffe cooling towers just north of Nottingham. At 5pm he was flying SSE at 61 km/hr at Bruntingthorpe. At 9pm he was roosting in Aston woods south of Chinnor, near the M40, after a day's of flight of 252 miles.

The weather for tomorrow is fresh south-west winds with good visibility, so he may try flying out over the channel from the Isle of Wight.

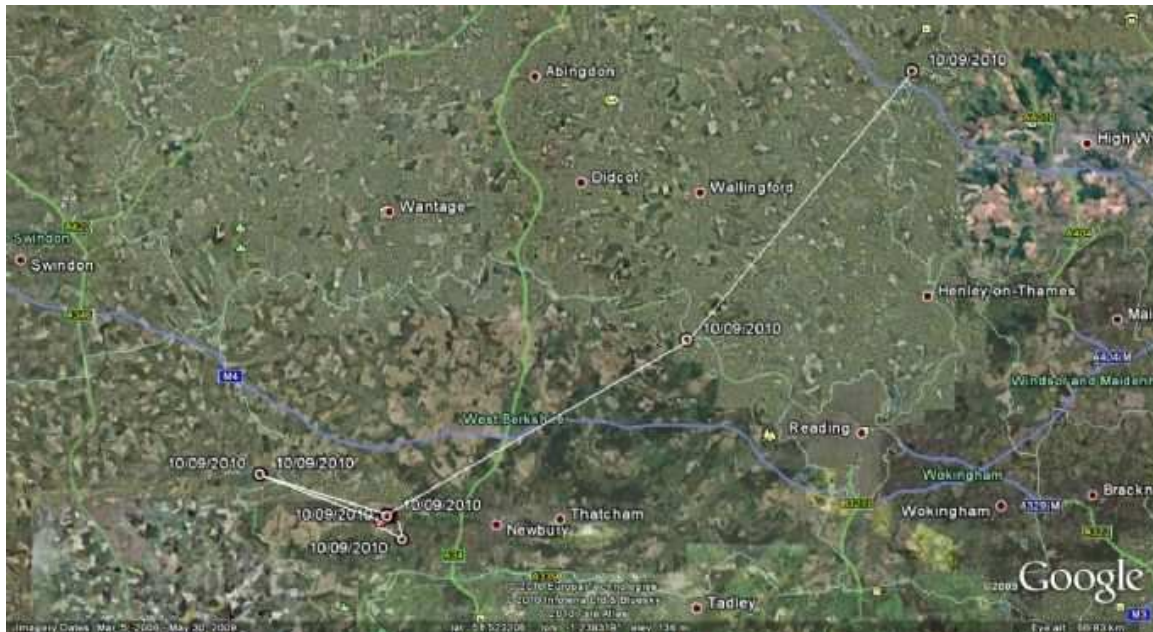


10 September 2010

First data just in and showed that Red 8T stopped off at Kintbury west of Newbury. Was perched in woods between the River Kennet and the canal at midday; and still in that area early this morning. More updates later today. Weather; showers and overcast, south wind, suggests he may linger before trying to cross the Channel.



Red 8T at Kintbury



42 mile trip on 10th

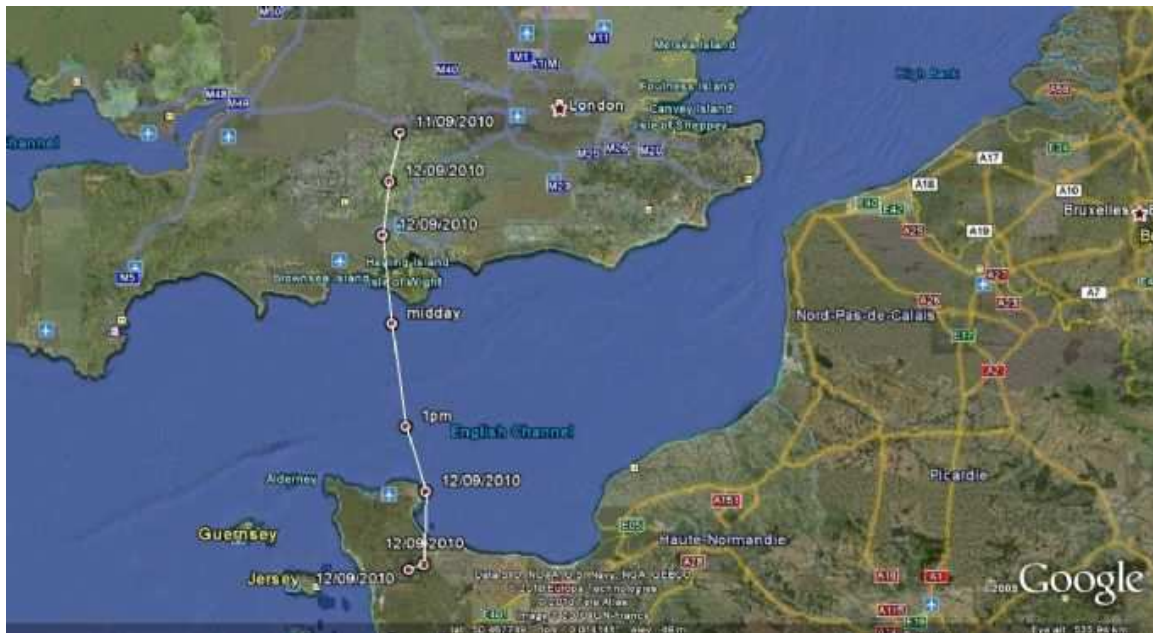
12 September 2010: Crossed the English Channel and kept going!

Red 8T roosted again in the same wood overnight. The first GPS signal so far received at 10am showed him just south of Andover flying ESE at 42kms/hr. He then flew down the River Test valley, passing over Romsey, and at 11am was

700 metres above Tottenham flying SE at 70kms/hr. He flew over the New Forest and departed the mainland at Sowley Pond, crossing the Solent and the western end of the Isle of Wight, he headed out into the channel. At midday, he was well to the south, flying SSE at 63kms/hr 115 metres above the sea. He headed for the Cherbourg Peninsula and travelled down the east side of Cherbourg to come ashore over La Madeleine at 1400GMT.

New data in: at 1500GMT he was flying SSE at 65km/hr east of Villedieu-les-Poules and kept heading through Brittany, passing Vitre at 1700GMT. At 1800GMT he was now heading for the coast. At 1900GMT he was over Nantes flying SSW at 72kms/hr and an hour later was 5 kms off the coast at Hilaire-de-Riez, heading through the Bay of Biscay flying SSW and 65 km/hr 711 m above the sea. He had obviously decided to do a direct crossing to Spain.

A non-GPS signal 0530GMT on 13th September showed him to be 100 kms from his destination and his heading was spot-on for the estuary of Ria de Villaviciosa, which is an excellent osprey stopover with the masses of grey mullet. By this time he had flown 884 kms non-stop.





11 September 2010

Remained in the same area until at least 3pm (last signal of batch).



Resting in woods near Kintbury

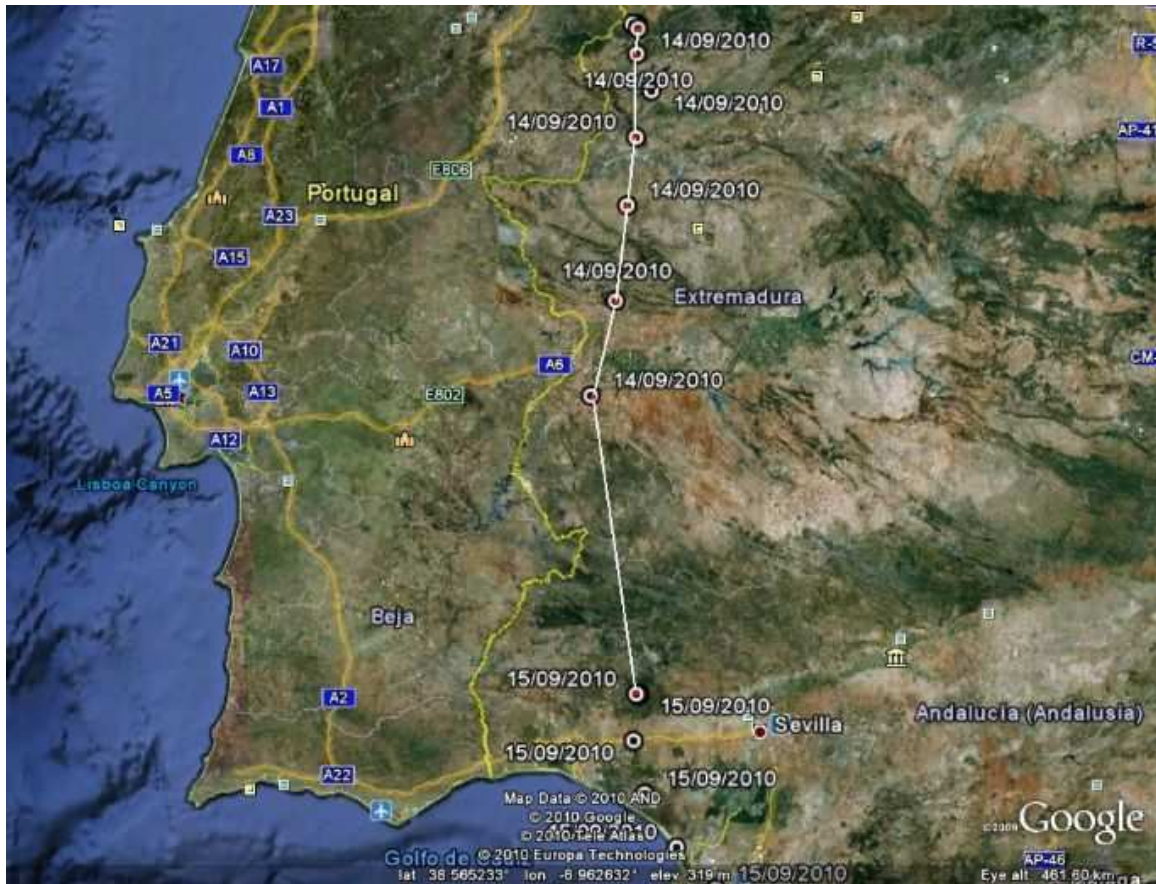
13 September 2010

At 0600GMT he was still flying over at the Bay of Biscay 98 metres above the sea; an hour later he was just NW of Cabo Penas, a big headland in Asturias, North Spain. He came ashore near la Arena and across the estuary and kept going south. At 8am he was headed for the mountains, flying at 69km/hr SW and then turned to the south flying of the highest peaks at 1000 hours. An hour later he was flying at 64km/hr at 1294 metres to the west of Leon. At 1430GMT he briefly crossed in the North Eastern most part of Portugal and then followed the river Duero south. Red8T finished his day's migration by 19:00 hours and roosted to the north of El Payo, after a flight of 434 kms since 0600GMT. He had flown 1318 kilometres non-stop from Newbury.



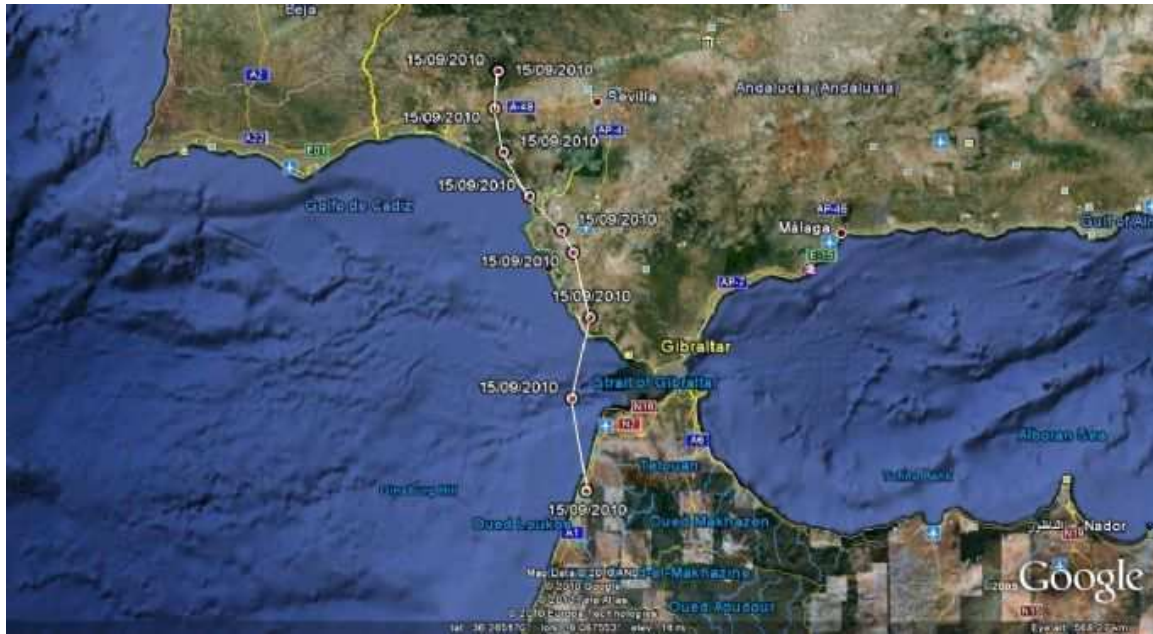
14 September 2010

Roosted overnight in the mountains SE of Valverde del Camino after a flight of 309 kms.



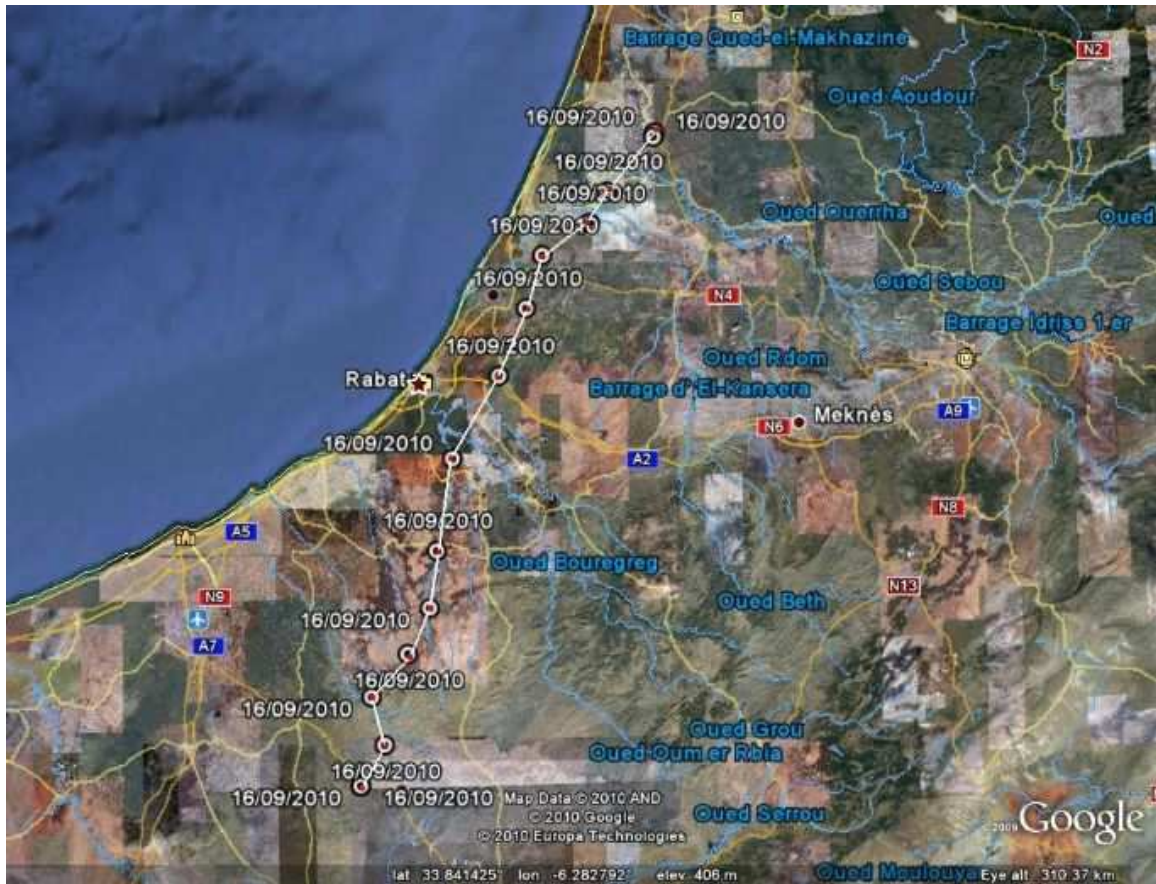
15 September 2010

Red8T was flying strongly S at 1000GMT heading for Huelva, and an hour later was over the pine forests in the western part of the Coto Donana National Park. At 1200GMT he was flying down the sand dunes at the southern end of the park and crossed the river and Sanlucar. At 1400GMT he was east of the Bay of Cadiz and can then set out over the ocean from Cape Trafalgar and at 1600GMT was flying over the sea SSW at 73km/hr 64 metres above the waves. He came ashore in Morocco at Asilah, south of Tangier. And the last signal of this batch at 1700GMT showed him flying strongly SSE.



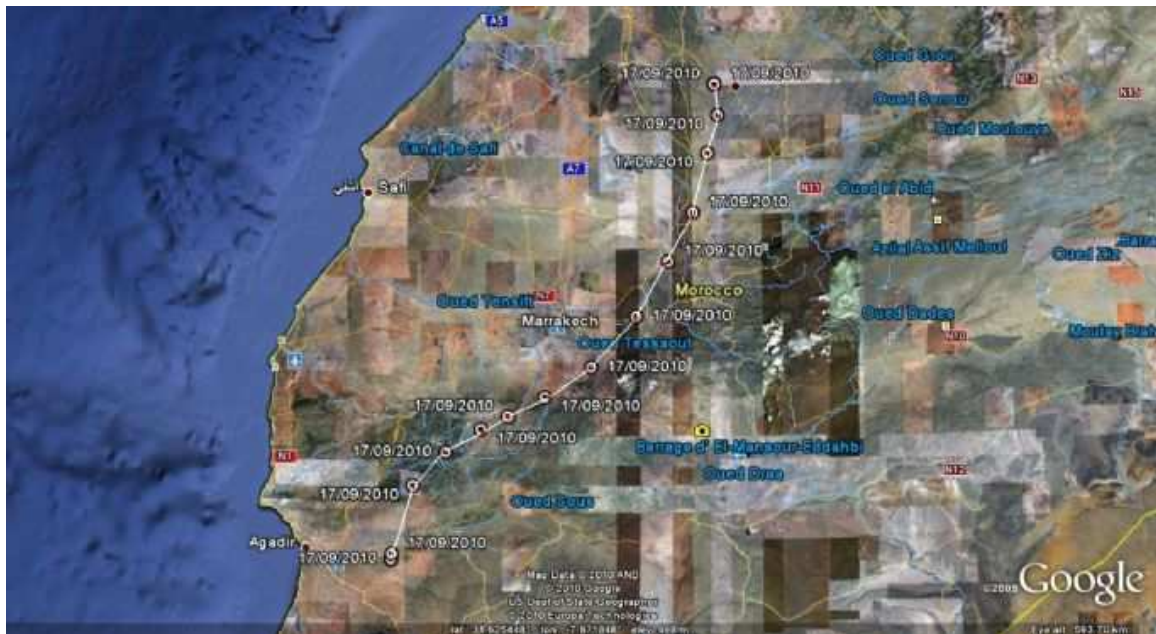
16 September 2010

He left his roost and headed SSW through Morocco, passing to the east of Knenitra and at 1300GMT was to the South West of Rabat. By 17:00 hours he was heading into the mountains and roosted for the night in farmlands west of Khouribga.



17 September 2010

By 0800 hours Red 8T was already flying south at 50km/hr; at 1300hrs he was flying SE at 44km/hr at 1304metres to the south-east of Marrakesh, and then headed south west along the mountains. At 1500 he was flying SW at 53km/hr at 1902 metres at Jbel Allaghine, and just after 19:00 hours he stopped to roost in farm land 50 kms east of Agadir, after a journey of 363 kms.



Red 8T heading into the Sahara Desert

18 September 2010

By 1100GMT Red 8T had flown another 98 kms to the south and was just to the south east of Tiznit. Heading for the Sahara crossing.

Data now in shows he had a good migration and is now heading into the Western Sahara.

20 September 2010: Through Northern Mauritania

Red 8T was rather late in starting today and first of all drifted to the west and then set off SSW. He flew through North Mauritania and covered 164 km during the day, and then roosted in the desert.



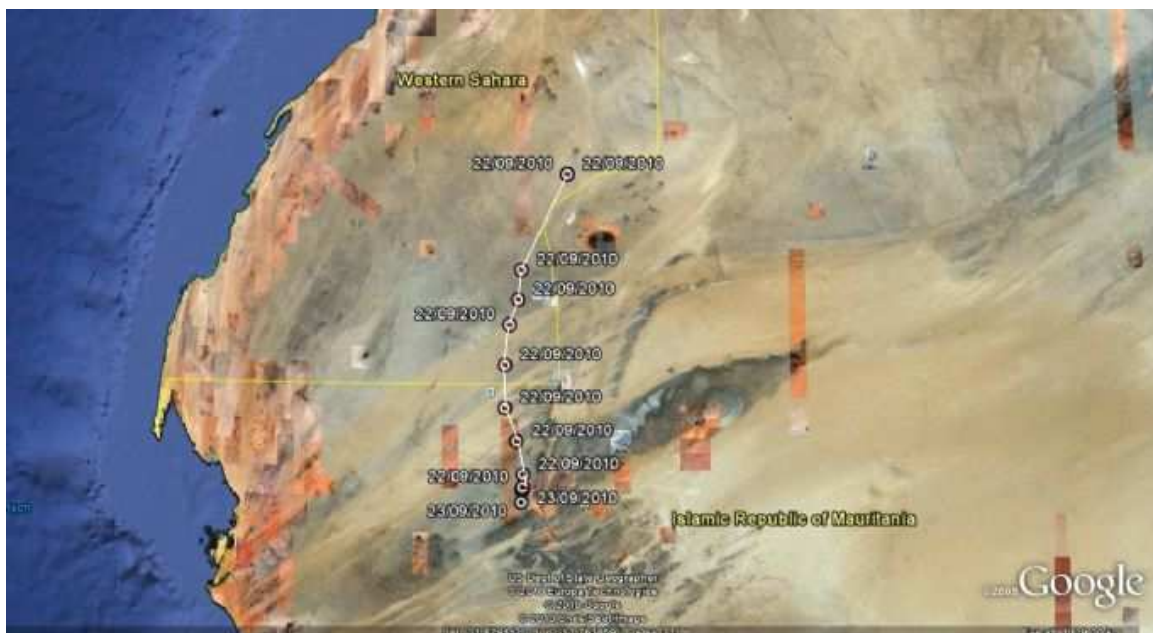
21 September 2010

He started migrating SSW from Mauritania and made good progress during the late morning and afternoon, covering 247 km before roosting in the open desert in the Western Sahara.



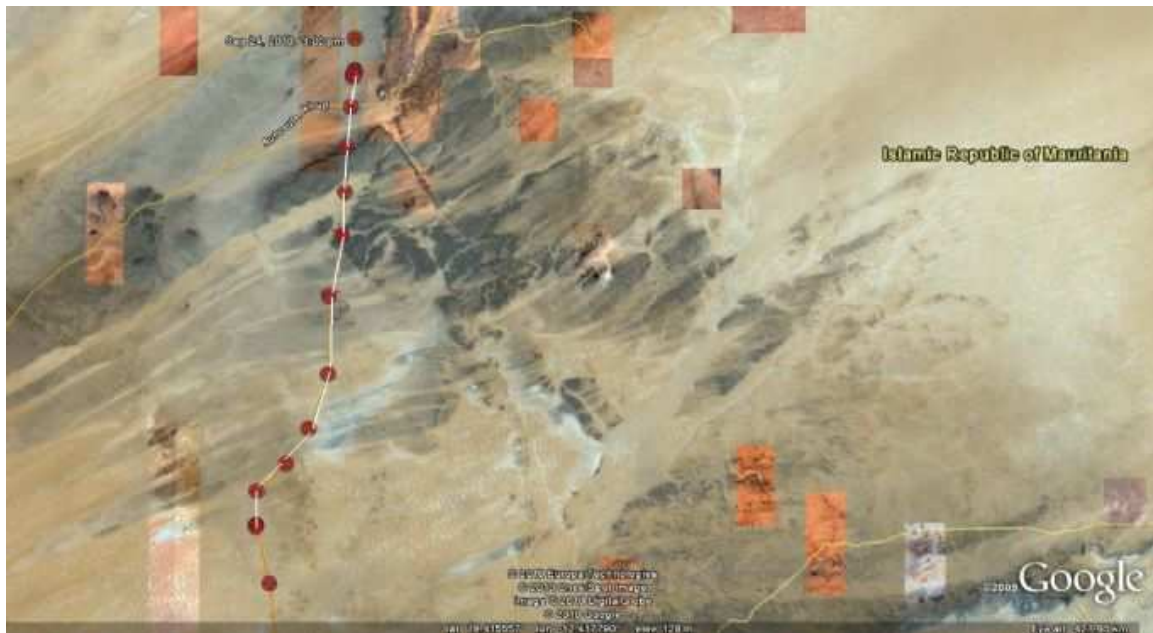
22 September 2010

Red 8T started his migration after 0800GMT and flew south, just west of the Fderik iron ore mine, by 1200hrs he had gained height to 1116 metres above the desert and was flying strongly S or SSE at 73 to 76 km/h. Just after 1500hrs he crossed the desert road to Atar and after 1800hrs he settled in the Mauritanian desert to roost for the night, after his migration of 340 km today.



23 September 2010

Down through Mauritania - 206 kilometres before roosting overnight in the desert.



24 September 2010

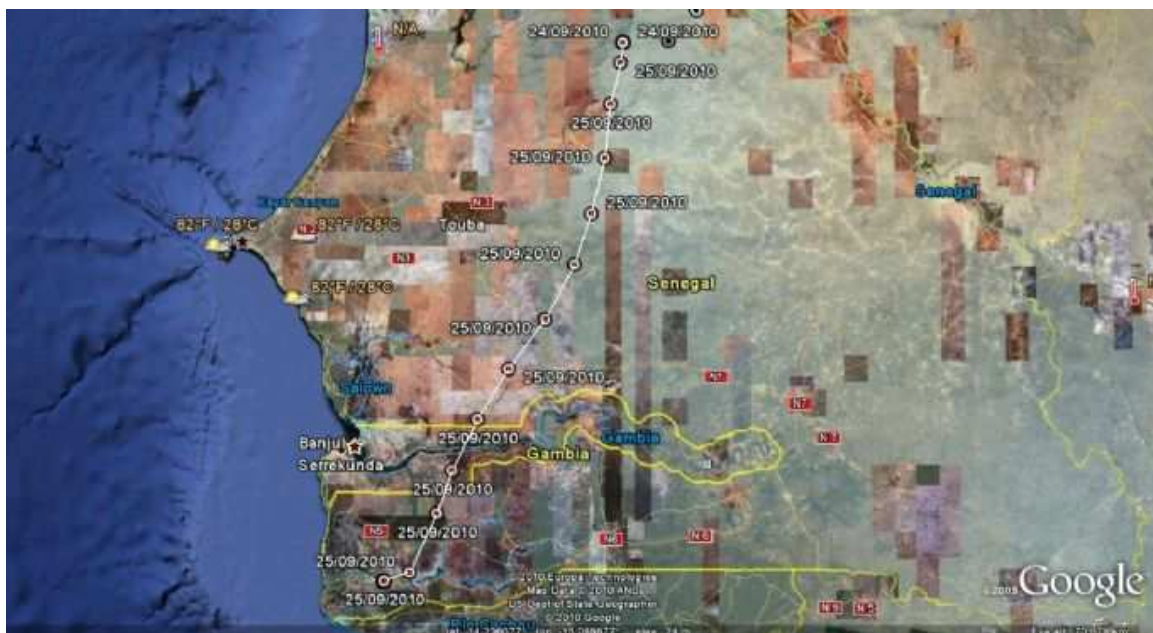
On down through the desert and making good time; crossed the Senegal River at 1500GMT, and then running into storms and rain, and this may have been the reason for turning to the west, to roost in semi-desert in Senegal after a day's journey of 347 km.



Route through the Sahara

25 September 2010: Red 8T reaches winter quarters

At 0900GMT Red 8T was already migrating through Senegal, flying SSW at 65km/h and 84m above the land. He flew on SSW through Senegal and at 16:00 hours was approaching the Gambian border, 33 km east of the location of the young osprey Rothiemurchus. He was flying at 68km/h. He flew over the Gambia River, on through the Gambia and into southern Senegal and at 18:00 hours was flying south towards the river Casamanche at an altitude of 711 m. At the 1900GMT he turned west to fly along the north side of the river and quite quickly he had reached exactly the same wintering site as last year, and settled to roost in the favourite part of the mangrove swamp. His day's flight was 427 km, the last day of his autumn migration.



Winter 2010-2011

31 October 2010

Red 8T is using exactly the same location in southern Senegal - mainly living is a small range but sometimes making longer flights to fish such as 5 kms north on 21st and 4 kms east on 29th.



09 November 2010

Living in exactly same area but slightly longer fishing forays - in home range of 23 square kilometres.

21 November 2010

Still living in same locality winter range 0.33sq kms between 9th and 21st November.



28 November 2010

Red 8T in same small winter range of 0.4 sq kms; the map shows his recent night time roost sites - spread across 840 metres.



31 December 2010: No change

No change in Red 8T's behaviour and he continues to winter in a small area of mangrove swamp of just 0.2 square kilometres.

10 January 2011

Red 8T is still in usual area of 0.22 square kms of magrove swamps.



22 January 2011

No change

28 January 2011

No change

17 February 2011: No change

Red 8T is living in a very small area of mangrove swamps and creeks, an area of just 0.3 square kms in last two weeks. Will be getting ready to migrate - last year he left on 22nd March.



02 March 2011: No change

Red 8T still on winter range, but longer flights of 4 km north on 27th and 7.7 kms north on 24th February.



13 March 2011: No change

Red 8T has been in a very small area (0.25 square kms) in the last ten days - it must be a very good wintering site with lots of fish. He left last spring on 22nd March so his departure will be getting close.

