

Subject: Re: [REDACTED] hudson river
 Date: Wed, 09 Aug 2000 11:07:42 -0400
 From: "Peter Nye" <penye@gw.dec.state.ny.us>
 To: <helen@bcsnet.it>

Not sure what you mean by "lower limit", but I would stick with 90 % or greater use of Hudson River fish.

Re: locations, I'll speak to my field contractor tomorrow and see what he has mapped out so far; report should be drafted soon.

--Pete--

>>> Helen Chernoff <helen@bcsnet.it> 08/08/00 12:54PM >>>
 Hi Pete,

Yes, the general location of bald eagle perching/feeding/and roosting areas would be very helpful to us since the peer reviewers felt that more detail of where each receptor is found along the river is needed in the ecological risk assessment.

The fish consumption data is very good news indeed, because many of the peer reviewers had an attitude like "yeah, right, 100% fish, isn't that overly conservative?" True, we did assume 100% Hudson River fish, but we don't know what the eagles are picking up in other areas. Do you have a recommendation for a lower limit of fish prey consumption (assuming an all Hudson River fish diet)?

Regards,

Helen

Peter Nye wrote:

> Hi H,
 > I'm not sure if all our latest eagle info from "upper river" is in Natural Heritage database yet, but we captured and radio-tracked many eagles up there over past two winters, and have identified some important perching/feeding/and roosting areas. Not sure if that kind of specificity is useful to you or not; let me know.
 > re: "fish consumption", a quick re-look/calculation of all my nest visits and prey determinations indicates that "percentage", is way-safely over 90%, and I suspect it's higher.
 > Of the dozens of observations we and our contractors have made of foraging eagles on the river, I don't believe I have ever heard of an observation of a prey item other than fish.
 > Strictly from my nest visits over the past four years, a total of 55 prey items have been observed, 50 of which were fish from the river. The other five were a goldfish believed to be from a local pond, the foot of a grebe, a teal, a duckling, and a gray squirrel.
 > --Pete--
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