

## Reports & News

### Little Eagle returns from Daly Waters to Canberra

In *Flightlines* July 2017, David Drynan, Director of the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme, wrote:

"There have been a few record-breaking recoveries and resightings reported since the last issue of *Flightlines*.

132-19712 was placed on an adult male Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides* at Woodstock Nature Reserve, ACT on 28 October 2015 by Jerry Olsen along with a satellite transmitter pack. The transmitter signal was detected near Daly Waters, NT on 2 June 2017, 1 year 7 months and 5 days after banding. The 'great-circle'\* distance moved is 2639 km, however the tracking data revealed a 3300 km journey. This is the second longest 'great-circle' movement recorded for this species. We are eagerly awaiting the return of this bird to the ACT. If he makes it back to the ACT, he will have travelled in excess of 5200 km. This remarkable movement was reported in the *Canberra Times*:



The eagle wearing his transmitter: Photo—Jerry Olsen & Susan Trost

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/a-little-eagles-remarkable-migration-from-canberra-to-the-northern-territory-20170421-gvpwm1.html>

\*Great circle' distance calculations are the shortest distance between two points on the globe, and are how all movements are calculated by the ABBBS database."

This adult male was first reported back in Canberra by volunteer researchers Roger Curnow and Geoffrey Dabb at Shepherd's Lookout in Woodstock Nature Reserve on 11/8/2017. The male was seen circling and courting with the Strathnairn female by ST on 13/8/2017 but then he disappeared. Another male, an apparent floater from nearby Land's End, attended the nest for a time with a female, but then both disappeared. At the time of writing [9/11/2017], the nest is empty and no Little Eagles have been confirmed on the Strathnairn territory.

#### Reference

Drynan, D. (2017). Bill board. *Flightlines* 32: 5. Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme.

Jerry Olsen and Susan Trost

The eagle is released (note transmitter aerial):

Photo—Jerry Olsen & Susan Trost

