

From: <Tony_Banks@dom.com>
To: <ajk1@nrc.gov>, <maryann.parkhurst@pnl.gov>
Date: 2/13/04 9:22AM
Subject: Suspected Bald Eagle Nests On Contrary Creek

Andy, Mary Ann - Below is follow-up to Mike Sackschewsky's discussions with Glenn Bishop.

Tony Banks
Dominion ESP Project
804/273-2170

----- Forwarded by Tony Banks/NUC/VANCPower on 02/13/04 09:07 AM -----

Glenn Bishop
To: Tony Banks/NUC/VANCPower@VANCPower
02/12/04 04:31 PM
cc: Bill Bolin/LR/FH/VANCPower@VANCPower, George D O'Connell/NUC/
VANCPower@VANCPower

Subject: Suspected Bald Eagle Nests On Contrary Creek

During the ESP Environmental site audit (12/8-12/10/03), George O'Connell brought to our attention the existence of 2 large bird nests located in the upper end of Contrary Creek. These nests are ~3 miles from the site "as the crow flies".

Recently, Bob Graham and Rick Willis (of Dominion Biology) were at the North Anna site (~12/30/03) and I had them check the nests out to determine if they might be bald eagle nests. They could find no remains of fish parts under the nests [typical of bald eagle nests], nor did they see any feathers. One nest was surrounded by droppings and the other was not. Eagles are known to build 2 nests which they may use in alternate years, however, if the nests were active, then eagles should have been in the area using them at this time of year [overwintering]. Also, based on the eagle nests I've observed, the ground beneath them is usually littered with skeletal fish remains. I also contacted the VDGIF and they report no known bald eagle nests in the North Anna area.

My preliminary guess is that these are probably osprey nests, currently inactive as the birds have migrated out. There is also the possibility that these may be great blue heron nests. In either case, distance from the North Anna site would preclude any adverse impact.

Attached is a photo of one of the nests taken during the site visit [they ran out of disk space and could not get another picture].

You may want to forward this to the National Lab folks. I know they also looked at the nests before leaving the site audit.

(See attached file: NAnna Bird Nest7.JPG)(See attached file: NAnna Bird Nest5.JPG)

CC: <Bill_Bolin@dom.com>, <Glenn_Bishop@dom.com>, <Judson_White@dom.com>, <Joseph_Hegner@dom.com>