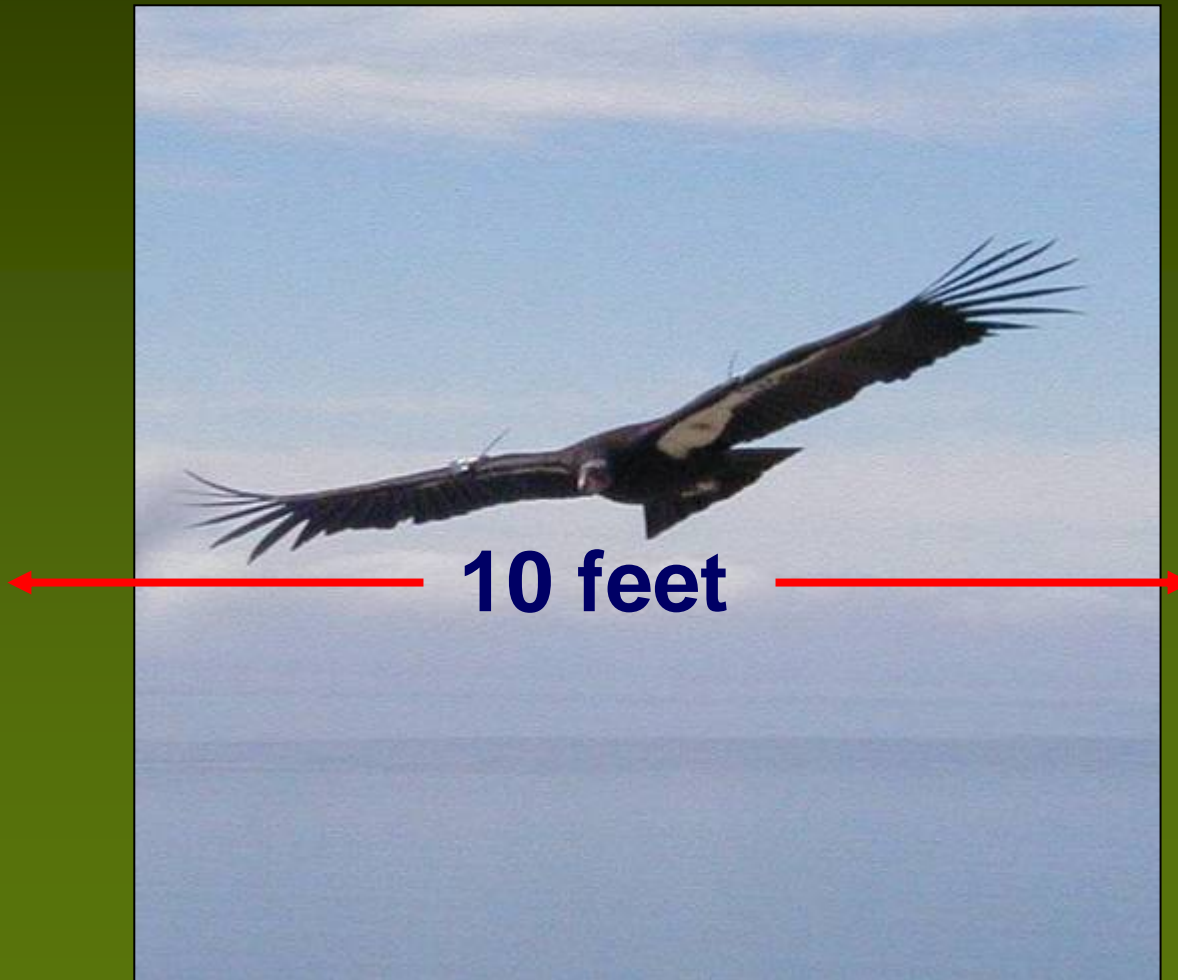


Condor



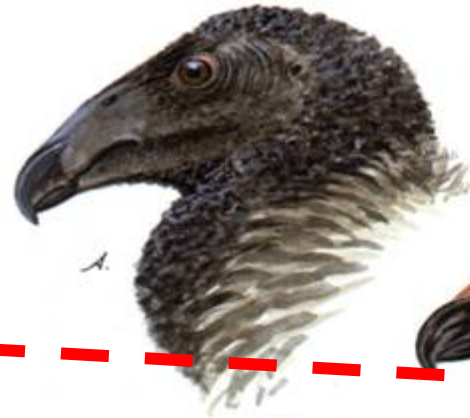
The California Condor is North America's Largest Land bird



Condors can fly 150 miles in a single day



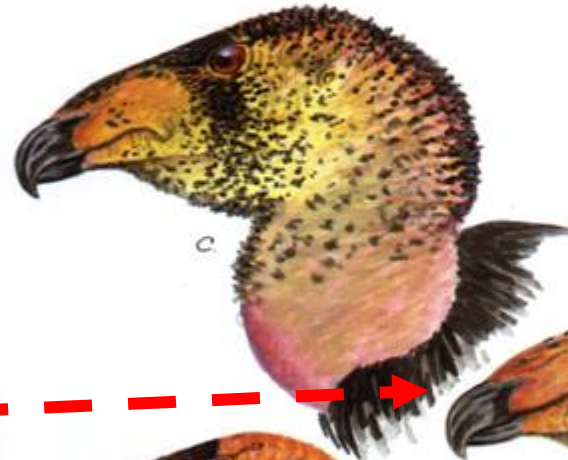
1 year old



2-3 year old



4-5 year old



6 year old



7+ year old



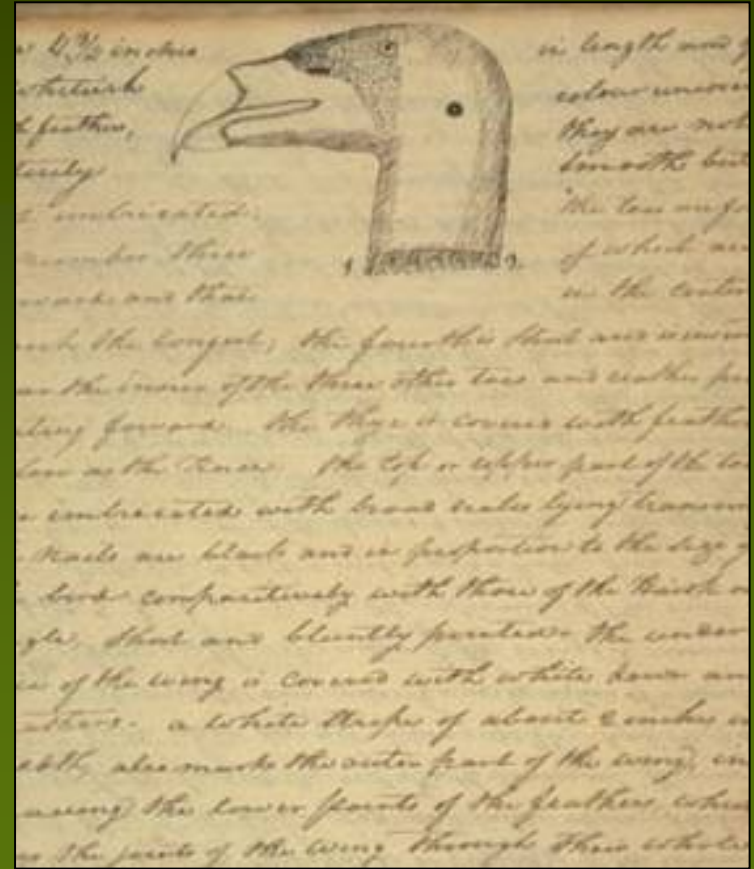


California Condor

Gymnogyps californianus

Current Species Status:
Endangered (1967)

Cultural Significance



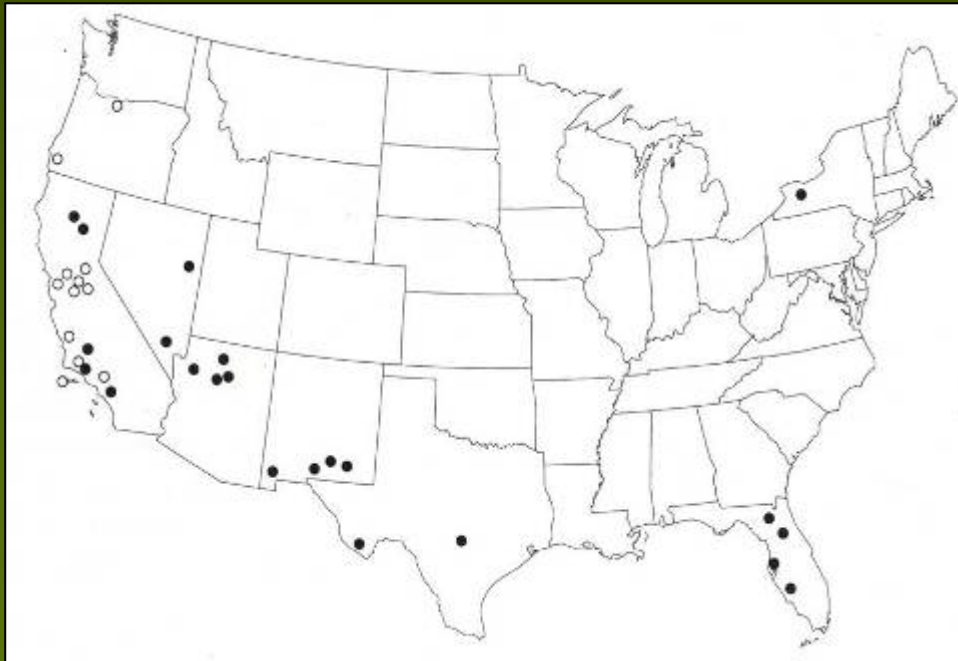
Lewis & Clark

Oct 28, 1805:

"A moderate rain commenced at 4 O'clock p.m. and continued until 8 p.m. First vulture of the Columbia seen today."

From Lewis & Clark Journals

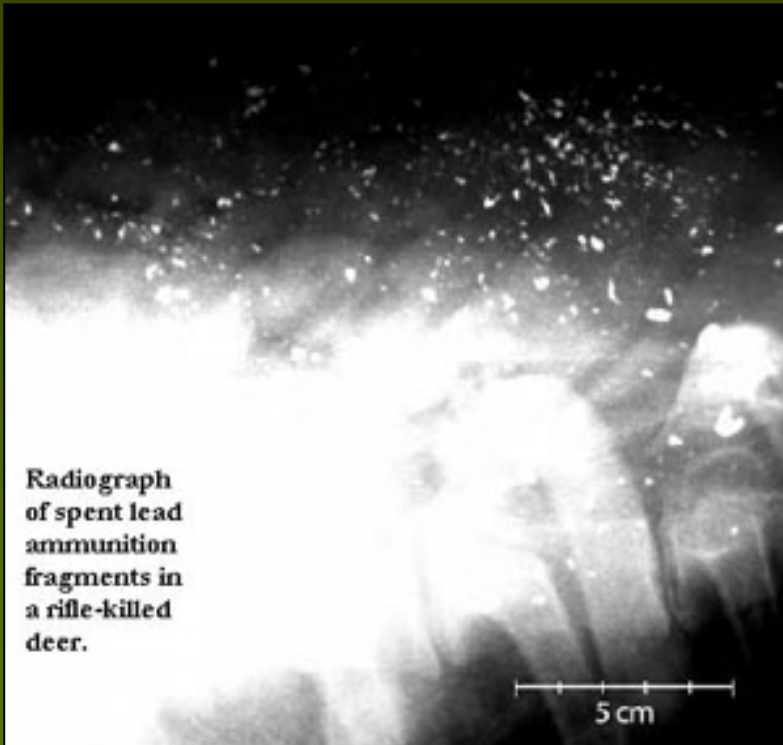
Historic Range



Reasons for Decline

- Lead poisoning
- Shooting
- Electrocution
- Specimen & Egg Collecting
- DDT, Strychnine

Lead from Spent Ammunition



Power line Collision



Recent History

- 1967- Listed under ESA
- 1987- The last wild condor captured
- 1992- First release in CA
- 1996- Released into Grand Canyon, 10(j)
- 2001- First egg hatched in wild
- 2002- Condors released into Northern Baja
- 2003- First wild-hatched condor fledges
- 2005- First Oregon Zoo Condor released
- 20??- First Release in Oregon?

Condor Numbers (updated 7/14/08)

- Total Population 332
- Captive Population 181
- Wild Population 151
- Arizona Population 63
- California population 81
- Baja population 7

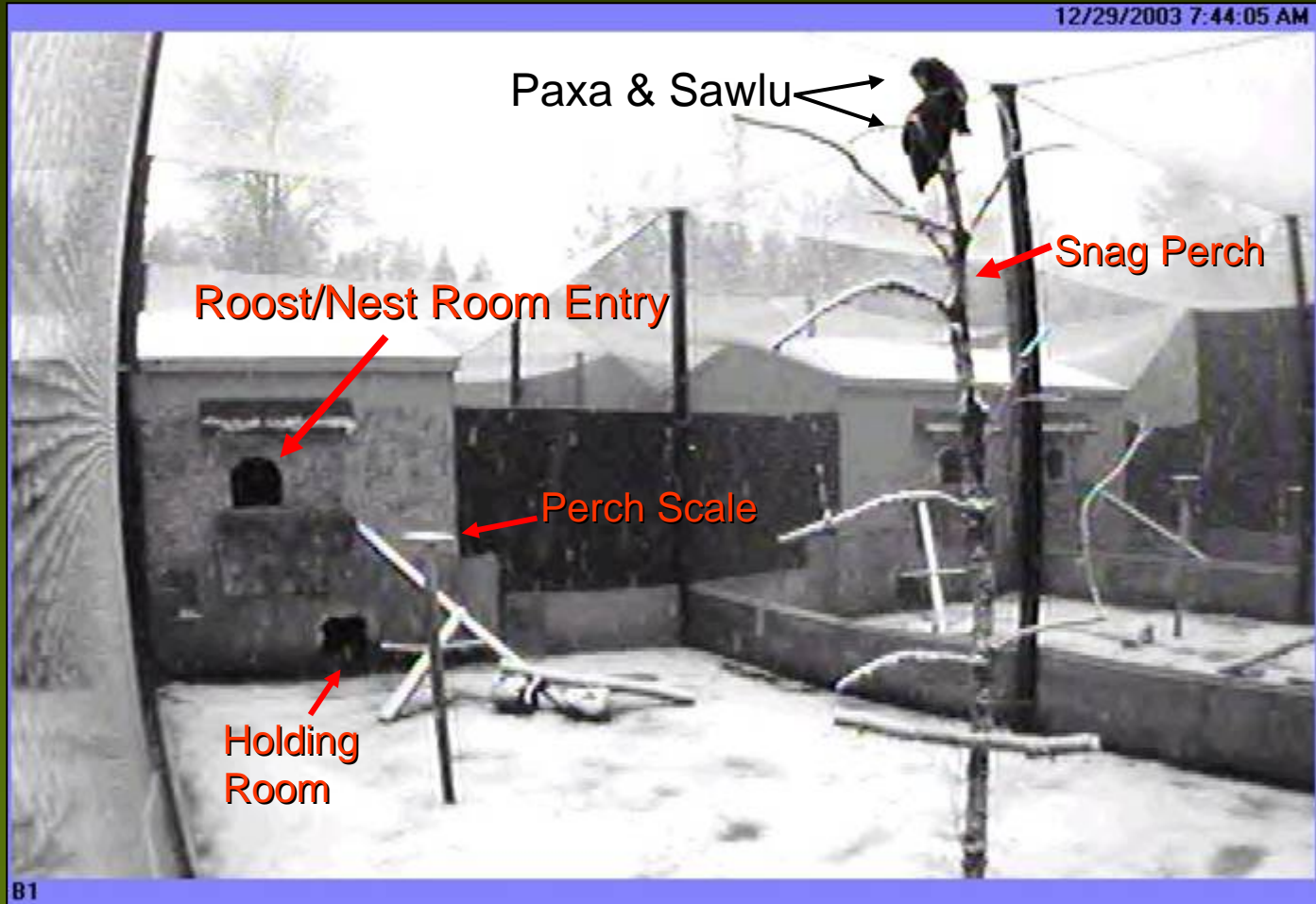
Condor Recovery Goals

- Two geographically separate condor populations and one captive flock of 150 birds each
- 15 breeding pairs in each population
- A positive growth rate in each population

Johnson Center for Wildlife Conservation



Breeding Pens



Captive-Reared Condors

In captivity condors are reared by their parents or a condor puppet out of view of humans.



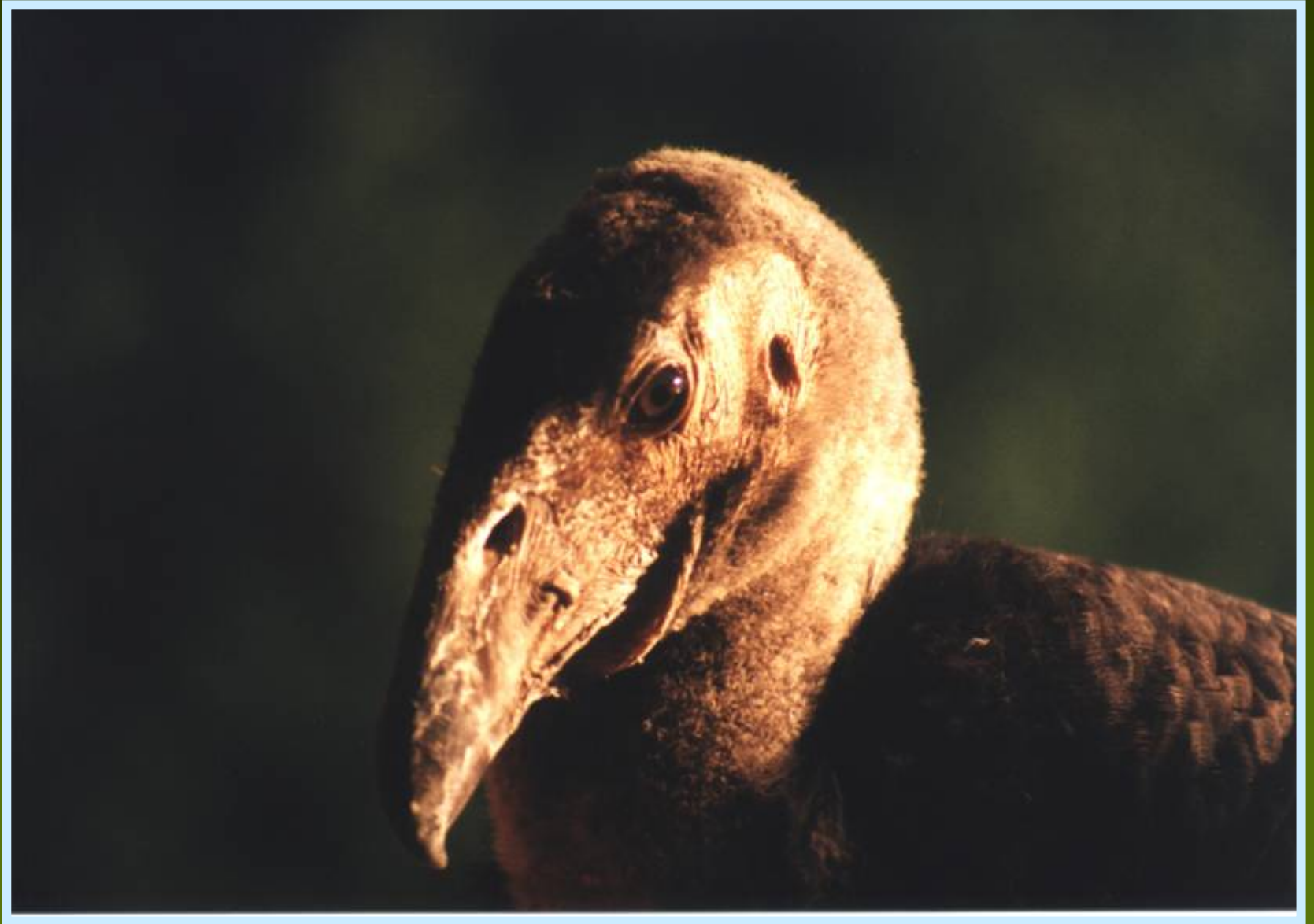




Tama (SB#11)

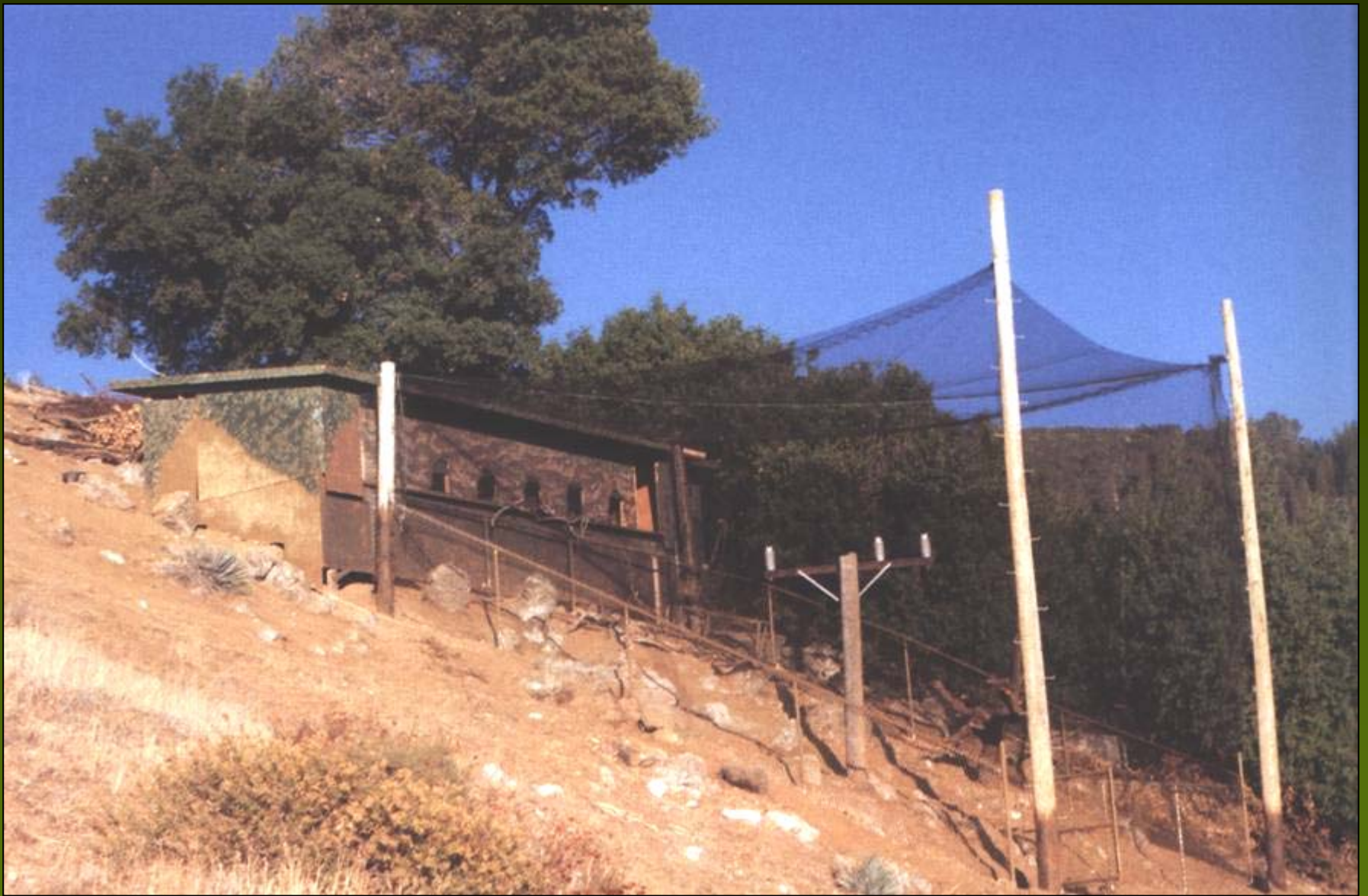
- Genetic founder and part of the original wild population. Captured in 1985

At 6-12 months in age, condor chicks are transferred to the release site



Pre-Ship Exam





Ventana Wilderness Society's Condor Rearing & Release Pen In Big Sur

Pre-Release Objectives

- Socialization & Mentoring
- Power-pole aversion training
- Learning feeding skills
- Development of motor skills





Mock Power Pole

The mentor teaches feeding and social skills critical to post-release success





A wild condor visits the release pen

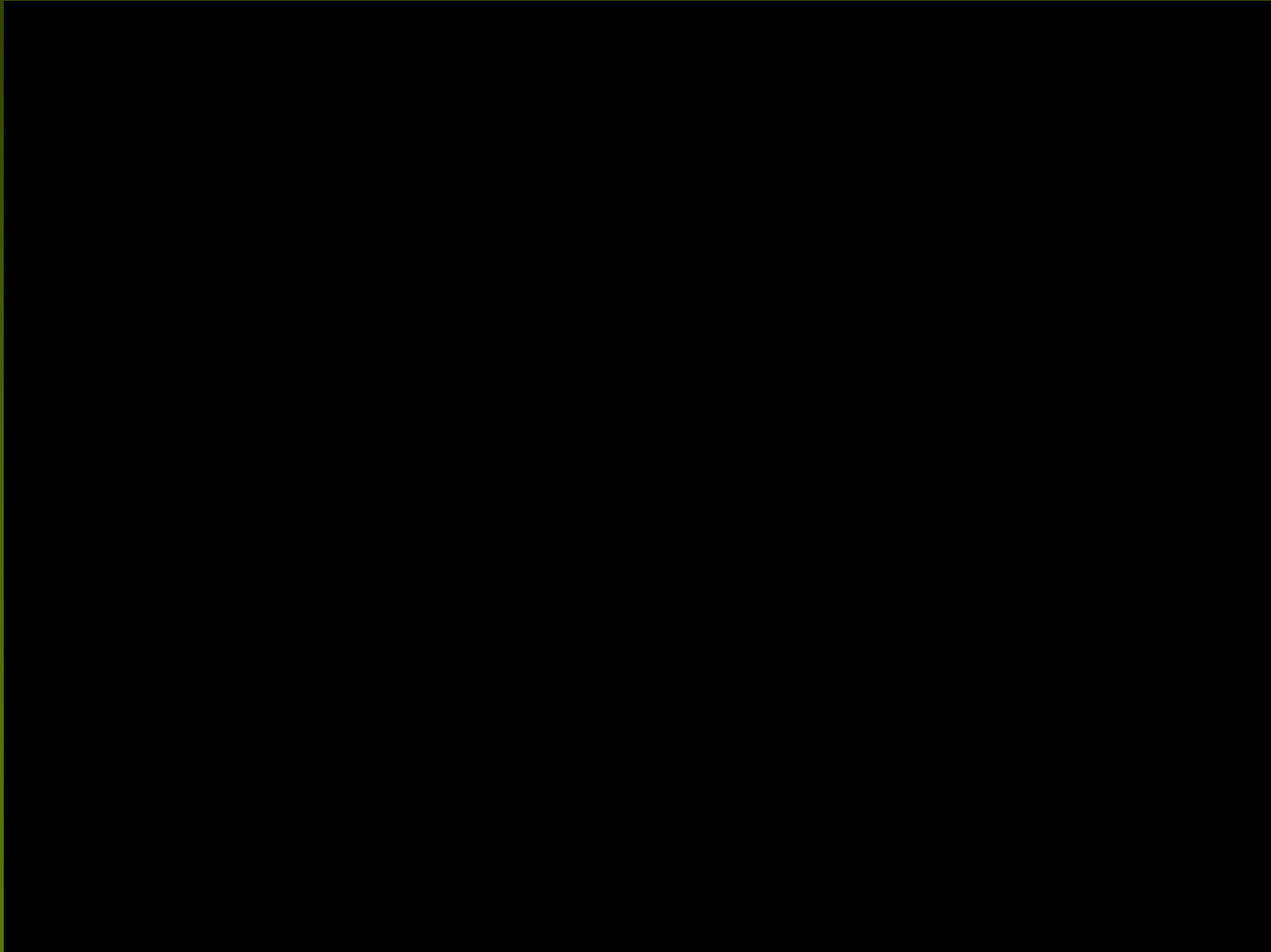
Prior to release, condors are fitted with radio transmitters and colored Identification tags



Condor Release Sites

- Central California (Ventana Wilderness Society)
- Southern California (USFWS)
- Northern Baja (San Diego Zoo & Mexico)
- Arizona (Peregrine Fund)

1st OR Condor Release



Wild condors are recaptured for blood-lead testing and transmitter replacement



Condor Release in Oregon?

Four primary objectives have been established for this feasibility study:

- Conduct biological assessment for reintroduction of condors to Oregon
- Build support among potential stakeholders
- Identify necessary resources to proceed
- Eliminate the use of lead ammunition in potential release areas

Biological Requirements

- Food source
- Soaring Terrain and thermal activity
- Nesting caves and cavities
- Absence of threats

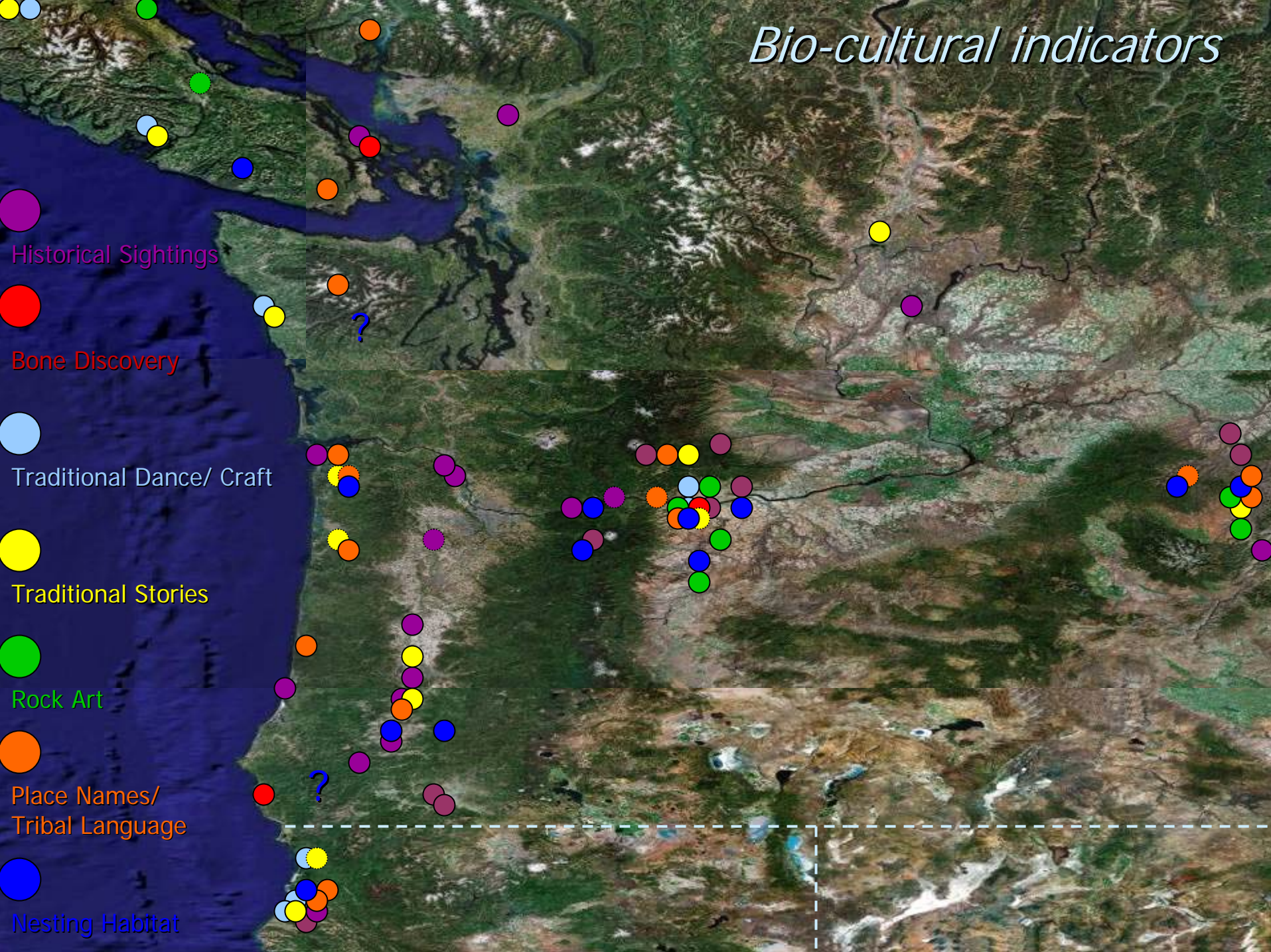


“The Thunderbird of the Columbia River Gorge was the huge Condor with its ten-foot wing span, the mythical ruler of storms... who controlled all aspects of weather...”

-George Aguilar Sr.

When the River Ran Wild (2005)

Bio-cultural indicators



Historical Sightings

Bone Discovery

Traditional Dance/ Craft

Traditional Stories

Rock Art

Place Names/
Tribal Language

Nesting Habitat

Nesting Site Surveys



Nesting Sites



Soaring Terrain and Weather



Roosting Habitat: Cliffs and large trees

