EMYR EVANS DISCUSSES INTRUDERS AT WELSH NESTS.

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As we near the end of another osprey season, it has been a record-breaking one for ringed intruders.

Remember that these are the one that got close enough to make an ID, there will be more in reality.

34 Unique Birds in Wales as a whole and 12 birds at the Dyfi nest - a new record. Excitingly, out of the 34 unique birds, exactly 2 are brand-new chicks born this year:

- *9L8* (Male): Born in Mid Wales at a private Dyfi nest (the eldest of two chicks).
- *3B9* (Male): Born in Kielder, England (named Kirknewton).

More birds each year mean just one thing - ospreys on the whole are increasing in numbers. We're slowly transitioning in Wales form a Recovery Population Status to one of low density.

Some of these birds on this list will undoubtedly be breeding in Wales in the future - either at brand new nests or by having replaced non-returning birds.

You can spot direct genetic connections between birds on both lists by looking at their parents:

- The Glaslyn Dynasty: Intruders *0H1* and *6M9* (on the Dyfi sheet) along with *0H2* (on the other nests sheet) are full siblings. They all share the exact same famous parents: the unringed male *Aran* and unringed female *Elen* from the Glaslyn nest.
- The Tweed Valley Connection: Intruders *721* (seen on both lists) and *6J8* (seen on the other nests list) are also full siblings. Their father is the BTO-ringed Oscar and their mother is *FS2*.

Calculating the ages based on the "Born" column highlights a clear trend in osprey behavior:

- The Hatchlings (2026): *9L8* and *3B9* were born this very year.
- The Sub-Adult "Sweet Spot" (2–4 years old): The overwhelming majority of the birds on these lists were born between 2022 and 2024. Ospreys typically do not breed until they are 3 to 5 years old (although we had a two-year-old breeing on Malltraeth this year!). These 2, 3, and 4-year-old birds are in their prime wandering years, scouting out potential future nest sites.

Where Are They Coming From?

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While many intruders are Welsh-born, a massive percentage are travelers from outside Wales who are looking to expand their range:

- The Scottish Contingent: Birds like *721* and *6J8* from the Tweed Valley, *4B9* from Threave Castle, and veteran *PE* from Moray show a heavy flow of Scottish *ospreys*.
- The English Travelers: Ospreys are filtering into Wales from all over England, including *Cumbria*, the Lake District, *Kielder*, *Rutland Water*, *Foulshaw Moss*, and even as far south as *Poole Harbour* (5R0).

The intruder population shows a very even balance between the sexes, with a slight edge toward the males:

- Males (M): 19 unique birds (56%)
- Females (F): 15 unique birds (44%)

This is exactly what we'd expect, females are always under-recorded.

Top "Producer" Natal Nests

These 34 intruders originally hatched at nests all over the UK, but a few specific locations produced the highest number of wanderers:

- 1st Place (Tie): Dyfi Offspring (Wales) — 4 unique birds
- *The birds: LX0* (hatched to Dinas, *Blue KS6* from Dyfi), *5M2* and *LX4* (both hatched to *Tegid*, *Blue Z1* from Dyfi), plus Tegid himself (BTO only) who returned to look around Glaslyn!
- 1st Place (Tie): *Glaslyn* (Wales) — 4 unique birds
    - *The birds: 499*, *0H2*, *498*, and *6M9*.
- 1st Place (Tie): *Cumbria / Lake District* (England) — 4 unique birds
    - *The birds: 460*, *6C6*, *9C9*, and *8C4*.
- 2nd Place: *Tweed Valley* (Scotland) — 3 unique birds
    - *The birds: 721*, *6J8*, and *685*.
- 3rd Place: *Kielder Forest* (England) — 2 unique birds
    - *The birds: 432* (*Eshells*) and *3B9*.

The remaining 21 birds are single intruders from various nests across Rutland, the West Midlands, Lancashire, Foulshaw Moss, Poole Harbour, and various private Welsh nests.

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Ringed intruders sighted at other Welsh nests, not Dyfi

	Ring	Sex	Born	Natal nest	Information and parents, if known	Sighting	Date
1	685	M	2021	Tweed Valley	Parents not recorded, breeding in North Wales 2025	Pont Croesor	25/03/26
2	7C1	F	2022	Lake district	Father 9C Mother DP	Glaslyn	05/04/26
3	BTO only	M	2016	Dyfi	Tegid has lost his Darvic ring, identified by his BTO ring: 1057948	Glaslyn	06/04/26
4	499	M	2022	Glaslyn	Father Unringed (Aran) Mother Unringed (Mrs G)	Pont Croesor	08/04/26
5	432 (Eshells)	F	2021	Kielder nest 6	Father W6 (Eryri/Snowdonia) Mother Unringed	Glaslyn	10/04/26
6	3H6	F	2023	Rutland B	Father 30(10) Mother HJ8	Usk Valley	12/04/26
7	721	M	2022	Tweed Valley	Father BTO ringed (Oscar) Mother FS2	Llyn Brenig	12/04/26
8	0H8	F	2023	Pont Croesor	Father Z2 (Aeron) Mother 014	Llyn Brenig	15/04/26
12	0H2	M	2023	Glaslyn	Father Unringed (Aran) Mother Unringed (Elen)	Clywedog	15/04/26
9	7C4	M	2022	Bolton Castle	Father unringed Mother KS1 Glaslyn 2018	Glaslyn	16/04/26
10	498	M	2022	Glaslyn	Father Unringed (Aran) Mother Unringed (Mrs G)	Pont Croesor	19/04/26
11	8B2	M	2023	Clywedog	Father Unringed (Dylan) Mother 5F	Pont Croesor	19/04/26
12	LX0	M	2023	North Wales	Private nest in North Wales, Father : Dinas (Blue KS6, Dyfi)	Pont Croesor	21/04/26
13	6J8	F	2024	Tweed Valley	Father BTO ringed (Oscar) Mother FS2	Usk Valley	19/05/26
14	4R1	F	2024	West Midlands	Father 2AM (Rutland M.B.) Mother KA6 (Clywedog 2019)	Usk valley	09/06/26
15	9C9	F	2024	Cumbria	Father CX5 Mother PA1	Glaslyn	14/06/26
16	5M2	F	2024	North Wales	Private nest in North Wales, Father : Tegid (Blue Z1, Dyfi)	Pont Croesor	30/07/26
17	8C4	M	2023	Cumbria	Father CX5 Mother PA1	Pont Croesor	30/07/26
18	469	F	2021	Lancashire	Private nest, Father 0A Mother 3AX	Usk valley	06/08/26
19	4B9	M	2024	Threave Castle	Father 8o Mother KC	Pont Croesor	12/08/26
20	5R0		2024	Poole Harbour	Father 022 Mother CJ7	Usk Valley	16/08/26
21	LX4	M	2023	North Wales	Private nest in North Wales, Father : Tegid (Blue Z1, Dyfi)	Glaslyn	17/08/26
23	3B9	M	2026	Kielder	(Named Kirknewton) Father unringed (KM18) Mother KX7	Clywedog	21/08/26

Ringed intruders sighted at Dyfi

	Ring	Sex	Born	Natal nest	Information and parents, if known	Date
1	N0	M	2017	Foulshaw Moss	Father White YW Mother 35 Intruded at Dyfi in 2024 also	30/03/26
2	460	F	2021	Cumbria	Father: Merin W1 Mother unringed	05/04/26
3	KA9 (Gelert)	M	2022	Llyn Brenig	Father LJ2 Mother LM6	18/04/26
4	6C6	F	2022	Cumbria	Private nest, Father 0A Mother 3AX	20/04/26
5	KC1	M	2019	Eryri/Snowdonia	Private nest in North-west Wales, both parents unringed	21/04/26
6	PE (Morven)	F	2003	Keith, Moray	'Morven', ringed and GPS tracked in 2008 by Roy Dennis. Blog here	24/04/26
7	0H1	M	2023	Glaslyn	Father Unringed (Aran) Mother Unringed (Elen)	29/04/26
8	0H5	M	2023	North Wales	Private nest in North-west Wales, no details released	04/05/26
9	6M9	M	2024	Glaslyn	Father Unringed (Aran) Mother Unringed (Elen)	11/05/26
10	721	M	2022	Tweed Valley West Peebles	Father Unringed Mother FS2	13/05/26
11	5M4	F	2024	North Wales	Private nest in North-west Wales, no details released	15/05/26
12	9L8	M	2026	Mid Wales	Private Dyfi nest, eldest of two chicks	22/08/26

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